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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

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Coast Community College District  
Legislative Affairs Committee  
March 28, 2024  
Via Zoom

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Trustees Lorraine Prinsky and Jerry Patterson  
Trustees Absent: None

#### In Attendance:

Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor  
Meridith Randall, GWC President  
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations  
Erik Frost Hollins, Director of Public Affairs, Marketing and Foundation  
Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services  
Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology  
Lee Gordon, OCC Academic Senate President  
Curtis Williams, OCC Educational Technology Specialist  
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs  
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs  
Ricky Goetz, Board Secretary

### 3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee.

### 4. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 29, 2024

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the February 29, 2024 meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson  
No: None  
Absent: None

## 5. Federal Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs provided the Federal legislative update. On March 9, President Biden signed HR 4366, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, that included six of the twelve bills that constitute the federal budget for FY24. To close on the FY24 appropriations bills, Congress must act prior to March 22 on a second consolidated appropriations measure containing remaining appropriations bills. Approval of the second measure was anticipated to avoid a partial government shutdown, but unlikely that Congress would approve the final appropriations bills prior to the end of the fiscal year.

On March 11, the White House released the FY25 budget proposal. The budget proposed \$82 billion for the Department of Education (3.9% increase); increase the maximum Pell Grant from \$7,395 to \$8,145; establish a federal-state partnership to make two years of community college free; and increase spending by \$143 million to enhance capacity at community colleges. It also contained funding increases for the Department of Labor and the Employment Training Administration and funding for Registered Apprenticeship programs.

A letter of support for HR 6585 Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act would be drafted and presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the April 17, 2024 meeting.

## 6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update. The State Primary Election was held March 5 and would be certified on April 12. Adam Schiff and Steve Garvey will advance to the November General Election for Senate. Proposition 1 results were not yet available and too close to call. Additionally, 100 legislative seats and all of California's seats in the House were up for consideration. There were a large number of lawmakers who termed out, retired, or otherwise did not opt to run for re-election in 2024.

Relevant dates for the Legislature:

April 26 – Deadline for House-of-Origin policy committees to approve fiscal bills  
May 3 – Deadline for House-of-Origin policy committees to approve non-fiscal bills  
May 17 – Deadline for House-of-Origin fiscal committees to send bills to the Floor  
May 24 – Deadline for bills to pass out of their House-of-Origin  
June 15 – Deadline for the Legislature to approve a budget bill

Mr. Elliott presented an update on the following bills of interest to the District:

- *AB 1805 (Ta) – Academic content standards: Mendez v. Westminster School District*  
This bill has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and has a hearing date of March 20.
- *AB 1818 (Jackson) – Postsecondary education: homeless students: parking*

This bill was scheduled to be considered in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 12, but the measure was pulled at the request of the author. The bill is currently awaiting a new hearing date.

- *AB 1855 (Arambula) – Open meetings: community college student body associations*

This bill has been referred to the Assembly Local Government Committee and is scheduled to be considered on March 20.

- *AB 1887 (Cervantes) – Student financial aid: application deadline extension*

This bill was approved on the Assembly Floor (74-0) on March 18 and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.

- *AB 1891 (Weber) – Community colleges: allied health programs*

This bill was approved by the Assembly Higher Education Committee (10-0) and has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

- *AB 2277 (Wallis) – Community colleges: part-time faculty*

This bill has been referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee and is currently awaiting a hearing date.

- *AB 2305 (Fong) – Community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree program*

This bill has been referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee and is currently awaiting a hearing date.

- *SB 895 (Roth) – Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*

This bill has been referred to the Senate Education Committee and is scheduled to be considered on April 10.

- *SB 1039 (Wilk) – Community colleges: classroom instructor salaries*

This bill is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting referral to a policy committee.

## **7. State Budget Activity**

Casey Elliott reported that On March 14, the Senate Democrats released a budget priorities document titled Protect our Progress, that overviewed proposed actions to address the State's budget deficit. The Governor's January Budget proposal outlined a \$38 billion projected shortfall. The Legislative Analyst Office reported the shortfall could grow to \$53 billion. The May budget revision would incorporate April tax receipts and revenue returns data to provide a more precise number.

The Senate report suggested the Legislature could offset the shortfall by implementing several billion dollars in proposed solutions. The plan proposed \$29 million in reductions as part of FY 2023-24, \$800 million in reductions in FY 2024-25, and delays and deferrals as part of the FY 2024-25 budget. None of the proposed items were directed at community colleges. The next step in the plan was anticipated to be released later in the Spring.

## **8. Authority to Respond to Urgent Matters**

Co-Chair Prinsky presented a draft resolution granting the Legislative Affairs Committee authorization to take positions on legislation when a request was received from the

CCLC, AACT, or the State Chancellor's Office that required urgency. The resolution would be presented to the Board of Trustees for adoption at the April 3, 2024 meeting.

SB 895 addressed California's nursing shortage by authorizing the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to select up to 15 community college districts with existing nationally accredited ADN programs to offer Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to prepare a letter of support for SB 895 Community Colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program for approval at the April 3, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:	Trustee Prinsky and Trustee Patterson
No:	None
Absent:	None

#### **9. Future Agenda Items**

Federal Legislation  
State Legislation  
Bond Issues  
Budget Activity

#### **10. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

#### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.



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Richard Goetz  
Secretary of the Board