
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee Special Meeting
Friday, September 12, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.**

Held Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Trustee Lorraine Prinsky (online)
Trustee Jim Moreno (in person)

In Attendance:

Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations
Matt Kern, Director of Public Affairs and Marketing

Online:

Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology
Marlene Drinkwine, Vice Chancellor of Finance
Meridith Randall, President, Golden West College
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs
Curtis Williams, OCC Education Tech Spec General, Library & Learning

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee

4. Approval of Minutes: July 24, 2025 (Attachment #1)

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Moreno, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2025, meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

5. Federal Update and Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs, provided the Federal update. There were new developments from the agency and regulatory side in D.C. that included data collection. The Trump Administration was scaling back some data career technical programs with a repeal of some technical regulations that were put in place toward the end of the Biden Administration. The changes were not yet implemented. The Department of Education was citing significant administrative burden at the state and local levels to carry out the changes. The repeal was not yet finalized, and comments were open for two more weeks.

The Department of Education outlined changes to the public service loan forgiveness program. The changes stemmed from an Executive Order directing the Department of Education to reassess which employers would be eligible under PSLF and it gives the Secretary of Education authority to disqualify employers from PSLF if they engage in activities "that have substantial illegal purpose". If adopted the proposal would take effect in July 2026.

The Department of Education announced that it will end discretionary funding for several grant programs for minority serving institutions that have eligibility criteria based on racial or ethnic enrollment quotas. The amount of funding impacted was about \$350 million. The funds would be reallocated into other programs. About \$130 million of the MSI programs are mandatory and will remain.

The House Appropriations Committee advanced their FY2026 Labor HHS and Education bill which proposes cuts to the education workforce training programs. There was approximately \$12 billion cut from the Department of Education and \$4 billion cut from the Department of Labor.

Another Continuing Resolution vote was expected soon.

6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs provided an update from the State Legislature. The Legislature came back from summer recess in mid-August 2025. Prop 50 special election pushed the session back. Voters will decide if they want to utilize new congressional maps for the 2026, 2028 and 2030 election cycles with a special election.

August 29, 2025, was the deadline for Appropriations Committees to consider their suspense files. Of note, Assembly bill 90 (Jackson) the overnight parking lot bill, was held. All bills held in Appropriations are technically two-year bills.

AB1400 (Soria) required the State Chancellor to develop a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program that authorizes community colleges to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. It was still on the assembly floor and was amended coming out of Appropriations off of suspense file. Amendments were made to reduce the number of programs from 15 to 10 and also to include the Inland Empire as an area of emphasis for those programs that do not have national accreditation. The bill was moving through the process quickly.

The Governor would sign bills on October 13, 2025.

AB695 (Fong) exempts a community college student from paying nonresident tuition if the student has been involuntarily removed from the US due to immigration enforcement actions. This bill should move forward.

SB707 (Durazo) Makes modifications to the Brown Act for teleconferencing. The bill was currently on the Assembly floor. There were issues with the bill, and it was expected to be placed in the inactive file. As a result, AB2449 (current provisions) would sunset at the end of 2025. AB259 was expected to be resurrected, extending the sunset on AB2449 for five more years.

Additionally, Assemblyman Arumbula introduced a similar bill earlier this year for the Community College Student Organizations. That bill was expected to be approved. SB707 would be worked on and could be brought back in January 2026 for approval.

Remote participation in the Brown Act meetings would remain the same as it is now.

A package of budget trailer bills was submitted that included a higher education budget trailer bill. The higher education budget trailer bill was largely technical items, with a provision to create a two-year pilot program starting in the 2026 fiscal year that would allow classified staff to use food pantry services at campus basic needs centers. Funding would be shifted from the classified employee summer assistance program to help cover some of the costs. Other language recommend that UC and CSU recognize students in dual enrollment or adult education transfer courses be recognized for transfer admissions. There are provisions for redirecting some unused funds for the zero textbooks cost degree program to help develop a platform that faculty can use to develop and share open resources. The bills will be signed by the Governor.

On a motion by Trustee Moreno, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to forward letters of support to the State Governor's office for the higher education bills on behalf of Coast Community College District.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

The topic of fraudulent enrollments was briefly discussed. Curtis Williams suggested OCC could put together some faculty training and requested Chancellor's office statewide fraud guidance and training modules. Julie Clevenger would look into this topic further.

7. State Budget Activity

Casey Elliott was to send an end-of-year update as the legislative session ended.

8. Future Agenda Items

- a. No additional agenda items.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be tentatively held on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 2:00 pm. It will be a Hybrid meeting with Zoom and in-person at the Chancellor's Conference Room.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Moreno, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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



Richard Goetz
Secretary of the Board