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# LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

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Coast Community College District  
Legislative Affairs Committee  
May 16, 2025  
Via Zoom

## 1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Moreno called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

## 2. Roll Call

**Present:** Trustee Lorraine Prinsky  
Trustee Jim Moreno

**In Attendance:**

Whitney Yamamura, Chancellor  
Julie Clevenger, Director of Chancellor's Office Operations  
Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology  
Daniela Thompson, Executive Director of Fiscal services  
Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs  
Joseph Melo, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs  
Ricky Goetz, Secretary of the Board  
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: March 20, 2025

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Moreno, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2025 meeting.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

## 5. Federal Community College Legislation

Joseph Melo of Townsend Public Affairs provided the Federal legislative update explaining the educational aspects of the Budget Reconciliation process coming out of Washington D.C. The House Committee for the Budget held a markup meeting compiling language from all the different committees, to create the "One Big Beautiful Bill" Act. The bill did not pass out of Committee. Policy debate will continue for Medicaid, SNAP, and the energy tax credit changes. . The specific piece from the Education & Workforce Committee, the Student Success and Taxpayer Savings Act, was directed to reach about \$330 billion in savings. One good thing included within the bill was the Workforce Pell Grant.

The update for Appropriations - the President had released the initial Budget request. The update for the Earmark process - a request was made with support from Congressman Min for Regional Criminal Justice Training Center improvements. With the continued work from Townsend Public Affairs, Coast Colleges, and Congressman Min's office, the request would move to the Appropriations Committee.

## **6. State Community College Legislation**

Casey Elliott of Townsend Public Affairs provided the State legislative update beginning with an update from the legislative policy side of the House. The legislature had moved through the first House Policy Committee process and the Appropriations Committee deadline was approaching. After the Appropriations Committee, measures on the floor would be voted out by June 6<sup>th</sup>. Then the process would begin again in the second House.

The State Auditor released the 50% Law audit in April. It was authorized by the joint Legislative Audit Committee in 2023. The law limits Districts' abilities to fund services outside of the classroom. The key findings included some oversight issues found within the State Chancellor's Office in reporting. Other observations were for growth rate of administrators vs growth rate of faculty. The Auditor recommended Legislature consider updates to the 50% law, particularly as it relates to counselors and librarians, moving them over to the instruction's side. The State Chancellor's office was to provide regular training and oversight for Districts for compliance with the 50% law.

There was a new audit request made of JLAC by Assemblymember Rubio to look at fraudulent student enrollment at the community colleges. Trustee Moreno offered to provide a letter of support from the Committee.

AB 48 (Alvarez) – *Education Finance: Postsecondary Education Facilities: College health and Safety Bond Act of 2026* was discussed. The bill was moving forward. This bill was focused specifically on community colleges, CSU and UC on facility and housing needs. The bill was currently in the Appropriations Committee on the Assembly side.

There continued to be advancement of bills that allow the ability to utilize teleconferencing for Brown Act meetings. One of the bills was AB 409 which the Coast College students did a great job advocating for when they visited Sacramento.

AB 259 would extend the sunset on the current AB 2449 provisions and was currently in the Senate. SB 707 was a bigger more comprehensive bill with modifications to language requirements, and this bill was moving through the Senate. There could be reconciliation of the bills due to the overlap.

Other bill updates, most of the following bills were in Appropriations and would most likely be on suspense.

- *AB 90 (Jackson) – Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking*  
Status: This bill was in suspense.
- *AB 323 (Fong) – Strong Workforce Program: work-based learning opportunities*  
Status: This bill moved out of Policy Committee and awaiting Appropriations.
- *AB 695 (Fong) – California Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students Act*  
Status: Moved through Policy Committee, waiting for Appropriations.
- *AB 1400 (Soria) – Community Colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program*  
Status: This bill was amended in April with language relating to the baccalaureate for nursing pilot program. Similar to SB 895 from Senator Roth which was vetoed last year.  
Status: The current bill was in Appropriations. Amendments were expected to address CSU. Julie Clevenger forwarded a letter of Support May 9, 2025.
- *SB 271 Public postsecondary education: students with dependent children: childcare services, resources, and programs*  
Status: Expands the definition of basic needs to include childcare services and resources. The bill moved out of the Senate Education Committee unanimously. It was currently in Senate Appropriations Committee.

## **7. State Budget Activity**

The Governor's May Revised Budget was released. The January Budget was presented as a roughly balanced Budget with a \$350 million surplus on a \$230 billion general fund. The new May Revised Budget projected a \$12 billion Budget deficit over the coming Budget year due to the anticipated drop in revenue in the upcoming Budget year. The state's actual revenues were above projections. The Budget offered a mix of approaches to close the \$12 billion Budget gap with cuts and cost reductions, largely in the health and human services areas. Significant Budget Deficits were expected ranging from \$14-19 billion in the coming fiscal years. The Revised Budget maintained \$11 billion in rainy day fund reserves and \$4.5 billion in a special fund for economic uncertainties and the Prop 98 rainy day fund at \$14.6 billion in the 2026 Budget year. There would be a drop in Prop 98 funding due to a modification to the expansion of transitional kindergarten. T-K would be moved away from Prop 98.

Trustee Moreno requested more information about the Governor's Revised Budget; specifically state employee salary increases. In addition, Casey Elliot would provide a chart for the Committee listing the reduced programs and revisions for Community College funding included in the May Revised Budget.

The May Revise proposed a change to the COLA from 2.43% to 2.3%. The May Revise increased the amount allocated to growth from \$30 million to about \$140 million representing 2.35% enrollment growth. The revised budget also included deferrals from the previous year and into the 2026-27 year. In other areas, there were significant reductions in the May Revise from the January budget.

The Legislature would have until June 15<sup>th</sup> to approve and pass the main budget bill.

#### **8. Future Agenda Items**

- No additional agenda items

#### **9. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting was scheduled for July 10, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

#### **10. Adjournment**

Committee Chair, Trustee Moreno, adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.



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Richard Goetz  
Secretary of the Board