
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Coast Community College District
Legislative Affairs Committee Special Meeting
Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.**

Held Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 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
Ricky Goetz, Secretary of the Board

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: May 16, 2025 (Attachment #1)

On a motion by Trustee Moreno, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the May 16, 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, Senior Associate, Townsend Public Affairs, provided the Federal update. H.R. 1 The One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 was signed into law on July 4th 2025 by President Trump. The bill is the largest tax and spending bill in the history of the country. Included are modifications to student loans, student loan repayments, immigration fees, and environmental rules. For higher education, workforce Pell's is the biggest piece coming out of the new legislation. Regulations will need to be issued to guide the process. All subsidized student loans will convert to unsubsidized loans beginning next year. A full analysis of the new bill will be sent to the Committee from Townsend Public Affairs.

The House went out on early recess. The Senate was still working on pushing forward their bills and would keep at it until the regular August recess.

The Department of Education and the Department of Labor reached a partnership agreement for Labor to take on a large role in administering adult education programs, literacy programs, and other programs. The Department of Education is looking into entering an agreement with Treasury and will include student loans in the discussions as they work to shift programs to other departments. Workforce programs could consolidate into one large program in the future.

Earmarks: Congressman Min supported and asked for funding for the Regional Justice Training Center at Golden West College. Senator Padilla submitted a funding request to the Appropriations Committee for the Professional Maritime Training Center at Orange Coast College.

6. State Community College Legislation

Casey Elliott, Vice President, Townsend Public Affairs provided an update for the Committee of the current State Community College Legislation.

All bills had moved through the second house Policy Committee and were either with the Appropriations Committee or on the Senate floor. The Appropriations Committee suspense files would be considered on August 29th and then the final day of session would be September 12, 2025.

AB 48 (Alvarez) – College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026 - the education bond focused on student housing did not advance out of committee.

AB 90 (Jackson) – Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking – the overnight parking bill has continued to move forward. Calls are in for the Appropriations Committee to hold the bill again.

AB 695 (Fong) – Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students Act - maintains a level of in state tuition for students deported or as amended self-deport. This bill continues to move forward.

AB 1400 (Soria) – Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program – baccalaureate nursing program continues to advance. The bill moved out of the Senate Education

Committee with a strong showing in favor of the measure from TPA on behalf of Coast Colleges. The bill is with the Appropriations Committee.

On a motion by Trustee Moreno, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to forward a letter of support for AB1400 and to forward a letter of opposition for AB90 to the state governor.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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

SB 744 (Cabaldon) – Accrediting agencies - states any national or regional accrediting agency that was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education on January 1, 2025 will continue to maintain that recognition until January 30, 2029. The bill is moving forward and is in Appropriations Committee.

SB 707 (Durazo) – Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements – the bill related to the Brown Act provisions for open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements: Coast Colleges will consider sending a letter.

AB700 – Public service educational loan forgiveness program - this bill would not move forward this year, however as a two year bill there could be movement next year.

AB 695 (Fong) – Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students Act – the Committee discussed writing a letter of support from the Coast District.

The Trustees requested additional letters be sent to the legislators summarizing costs associated with fraudulent applications and the negative impacts on the Coast District and other community colleges.

7. State Budget Activity

The State Legislature concluded business on the state budget at the end of June and was on recess July 18, 2025 through August 18, 2025. Trailer bills were expected through January 2026. The state budget passed and it addressed a \$12 billion deficit, anticipating reduced revenues coming from the federal government, although the Department of Finance noted the state ended last fiscal year with \$2.5 billion more revenue than anticipated. Prop 98 increases for community colleges were minor. Most of the increases were for COLA and new growth. There were other programs that received funding including the Common Cloud Program.

Two audit requests were approved at the JLAC hearing (Joint Legislative Audit Committee). One related to fraudulent registrations at community colleges and the other is related to usage of account balances for general fund reserves for community colleges. The process is slow and no results would be expected for at least a year.

8. Future Agenda Items

- a. No additional agenda items

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Friday, September 12, 2025, at 2 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 3:33 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

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


Richard Goetz
Secretary of the Board
