



August 27, 2012

State Legislative Update

At the time of this writing, the Legislature is nearing the end of the two-year legislative session. With one week left, the Legislature is considering hundreds of bills for action before it closes session by midnight on the August 31, 2012 and sends all bills passed by both houses to the Governor. The Governor has until September 30 to sign or veto all bills. If the Governor does not act on a bill prior to the deadline, it automatically becomes law.

The Legislature also recently completed its work in the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees, determining which bills would be approved and moved to the floor. These actions are reflected in this report. This year, as in recent years, numerous bills were held by the Appropriations Committees, and will not move forward, due to the continued fiscal crises. The Legislature will hold floor session every day until it closes its two-year legislative session at midnight on August 31.

Student Success and BOG-Sponsored Legislation

The Legislature continues to show strong interest in supporting the California Community College Student Success Agenda, including SB 1456 (A. Lowenthal), the Student Success Act of 2012 and SB 1062 (Liu), the Chancellor's Office leadership bill. Both bills have received overwhelming bipartisan approval. SB 1456 is on the Assembly Floor. Senate Bill 1062 easily passed both houses, and is on the Senate floor.

BOG Sponsored Economic Development and Workforce Legislation

The BOG's two sponsored career technical education, workforce and economic development bills cleared both houses with unanimous support. SB 1402 (Lieu) reauthorizes the Community College Economic and Workforce Development Program, and SB 1070 (Steinberg) reauthorizes the Career Technical Pathways Program. Both measures highlight the important role the community colleges play in preparing students to enter the workforce with the skills and education needed to succeed. SB 1402 was approved on the Assembly floor by a 63-0 vote and is headed to the Senate for concurrence with Assembly amendments. SB 1070 is on the Assembly Third Reading.

Text Book Issues

Textbook affordability issues have come to the forefront this year starting with a Joint Legislative Audit Committee Hearing in February and the introduction of several bills to address the rising costs of curriculum materials and expand the use of technology. SB 1539 (Corbett), which requires publishers to provide expanded comparison information on textbooks to faculty, has already been signed by the Governor. Companion bills SB 1052 and 1053 (Steinberg), which create an Open Education Resources (OER) Council and a Digital Library to provide low cost textbooks to students have passed the Senate and are expected to pass the Assembly.

Veteran's Legislation

Legislation supporting student veterans continues to be a popular issue in California. With large numbers of military personnel expected to return from active duty to California in the next several years, these issues take on considerable importance. Bills were introduced this year to waive nonresident fees, expedite certification and licensing of various professions, and promote a greater use of the American Council on Education's

guidelines for giving college credit for academic instruction in the military. AB 2133 (Blumenfield), which extends priority enrollment for veterans was approved by the Legislature and is on its way to the Governor. AB 2478 (Hayashi), which waives nonresident fees for student veterans at community colleges passed both houses and is back in the Assembly for Concurrence with Senate amendments. There are also two measures supporting the use of the American Council on Education's (ACE) guidelines for providing college credit for academic instruction in a military setting. ACR 159 (Gorell), a resolution encouraging the higher education systems to use the ACE guidelines, passed the Assembly and was sent to the Senate. AB 2462 (Block), a measure that would require the Chancellor's Office to review courses that give academic credit for specified military service, passed the Appropriations Committee with amendments and passed unanimously on the Senate Floor. The Chancellor's Office supports these measures. For additional details, please review the summaries below.

This following report provides a brief summary of significant community college-related bills introduced in the Legislature. The summary is organized by topic. We are continuing to analyze newly introduced bills and their impact on the community colleges. Also attached is the Chancellor's Office legislative tracking matrix.

Academic Affairs

AB 2171 (Fong) Public Postsecondary Education: Community Colleges: Expulsion Hearing

Analysis/Summary: AB 2171 would authorize community college boards of trustees or their designee(s) to deny, permit, or place conditions on the enrollment of a student applicant who has been expelled from a community college within the preceding five years, if the board determines that the person poses a risk to the safety of others. The student may appeal the ruling to the governing board.

Comments: AB 2171 is nearly identical to AB 288 (Fong) from 2011 which was vetoed by Governor Brown, and AB 1400 (Fong) of 2009 which was vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger.

Location: AB 2171 passed the Assembly and the Senate Committees and is now on the Senate Floor.

Position: Support

Accountability / Intersegmental / Coordination and Efficiency

AB 1741 (Fong) Student Success Infrastructure Act of 2012

Analysis/Summary: AB 1741 establishes the California Community College Student Success Infrastructure Act of 2012, and identifies the components of the infrastructure program.

Comments: This bill, which was sponsored by FACCC, has been held in committee as a result of agreement on amendments to SB 1456 (A. Lowenthal).

Location: AB 1741 passed the Assembly and was held in the Senate Committee on Education.

SB 885 (Simitian) Public Education Accountability

Analysis/Summary: SB 885 authorizes the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, CSU, UC, the California Department of Education, State Board of Education, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, Employment Development Department, and CA School Information Services to enter into a Joint Powers Authority to develop a comprehensive database for students from preschool through higher education (P-20).

Location: SB 885 passed the Senate and the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, and was sent to the Assembly Floor in July of 2011 and passed the Assembly on August 23, 2012 and was sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Position: Support

Budget / Finance / Facilities

AB 178 (Gorrell and Ma) State Teachers' Retirement: Post-Retirement Employment

Analysis/Summary: Current law limits the earnings of an employee in the STRS and limits the ability of a retired employee to reinstate. The law also provides exceptions to both of these provisions in certain cases, such as when a school or college district is in academic or financial distress and needs quick expertise to address these urgent matters. These exemptions expired on June 30, 2012. AB 178 extends the sunset date for the exemptions from the earnings limitation until July 1, 2014.

Comments: When a community college district experiences severe financial or academic hardships, the Board of Governors may appoint a special trustee or administrator to provide oversight. The exemption in this bill will help maintain a pool of qualified retirees to take these critical but temporary positions. With ongoing budget cuts, more college districts may find themselves in fiscal distress.

Location: The Governor signed AB 178 on July 17, and as an urgency measure, it took effect immediately.

Position: Support

AB 2164 (Dickinson) Community College Facilities: State Bond Reimbursement

Analysis/Summary: AB 2164 authorizes a community college district to be reimbursed for district funds used for construction projects that have been approved by the Board of Governors, Department of Finance and the State Public Works Board and have received apportionment funding in the state budget from the Legislature. The reimbursement would only apply to a statewide bond passed on or before December 31, 2014 and eligibility for reimbursement sunsets on January 1, 2016.

Location: AB 2164 passed the Assembly, but was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

AB 2442 (Williams) California Hope Public Trust

Analysis/Summary: This bill would establish the California Hope Public Trust for the purposes of providing much needed financial support to the UC, CSU and California Community Colleges. The Trust would be funded by transfers of state-owned property that are suitable for development. The Trust would manage those properties with the goal of increasing the value of its holdings and earning revenue for the higher education systems.

Location: AB 2442 passed the Assembly and is now on the Senate Floor.

AB 2655 (Swanson) Community Colleges Inmate Education Programs: Computation of Apportionments

Analysis /Summary: AB 2655 authorizes community colleges to receive full funding for credit courses offered in correctional institutions. Specifically, it would waive "open course" provisions for community college courses offered in state correctional facilities and would allow attendance hours generated by credit courses at all correctional facilities to be funded at the full credit rate.

Location: AB 2655 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee on consent and but was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 1271 (Corbett) Field Act Work Group

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1271 would establish a workgroup that will review and make recommendations on how to improve the Field Act. The workgroup will have a representative from the Chancellor's Office and a community college district.

Location: SB 1271 passed the Senate but was held by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 1280 (Pavley) Best Value Procurement

Analysis/Summary: SB 1280 would allow community college districts (as well as the University of California) to utilize best value procurement methods until January 1, 2018 for the purchase of supplies and materials that exceeds \$50,000 and the district determines that it can expect long-term savings through the use of objective performance criteria other than price. Districts will be required to report to the Chancellor's Office on their usage of this new provision.

Comments: Currently, districts are only allowed to use the traditional competitive bidding method. SB 1280 allows districts to consider factors such as life-cycle costs, servicing costs, durability, and factors other than price. For example, purchasing energy efficient light bulbs may be more expensive to purchase but the savings are realized in lower energy costs over time. This is based on the successful use of these methods by municipal utility districts.

Location: SB 1280 passed Assembly and was sent to the Senate Floor for concurrence.

Position: Support

SB 1509 (Simitian) Design-Build Contracts

Analysis/Summary: SB 1509 extends the sunset date for using design-build contracts from January 1, 2014 to January 1, 2020. Public agencies may release bids on engineering and architecture and make a selection based on the quality of the proposal. Construction contracts are often awarded to the lowest cost, responsible bidder. The design-build process allows the community college district to bid on the project's design and construction together, and accept bids based on quality with cost as a consideration. Among other amendments, the bill was amended to clarify that design build is not intended to completely replace competitive bidding.

Comments: Community college districts that have used the design-build process have saved resources by combining the design and construction process, and accepting bids based on quality with cost as a consideration. The design-build process was renewed in 2000, 2002 and 2006. In 2010, the Legislative Analyst's Office issued a report recommending the continued use of design build.

Location: SB 1509 passed the Senate and Assembly and was sent for Enrollment.

Position: Support

CTE / Green Jobs / Energy / Workforce Preparation

AB 2309 (Hill) Community Colleges: Public Private Partnerships Pilot Program

Analysis/Summary: AB 2309 authorizes the Board of Governors, upon availability of sufficient funding, to establish a competitive grant pilot program that will enhance business development and job creation.

Comments: The previous version of this bill only applied to San Mateo Community College District. Recent amendments require the Board of Governors to select the participating entities for the grant program.

Location: AB 2309 passed the Assembly in its prior form and was amended following its hearing in the Senate Education Committee. It has been sent to the Senate Floor.

SB 1070 (Steinberg) Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development (Reauthorize SB 70)

Analysis/Summary: SB 1070 refocuses and reauthorizes SB 70 (Scott) from 2005 that provided grants for career technical education partnerships with K-12 districts. SB 1133 (Torlakson, 2006) which established the Quality in Education and Investment Act provides funding for SB 70 projects through 2013-14. The author's intent is to delineate program goals, provide guidance grants that will have priority, strengthen accountability, and expand legislative oversight.

Comment: The BOG is the cosponsor of SB 1070 with the California Department of Education.

Location: SB 1070 passed the Senate and the Assembly Committees and is on the Assembly Floor.

Position: Sponsor/Support

SB 1402 (Lieu) California Community Colleges Economic and Workforce Development Program

Analysis /Summary: SB 1402, one of the BOG's sponsored bills, reauthorizes the California Community Colleges Economic Workforce Development program.

Comment: The California Community Colleges Association for Occupational Education is a cosponsor of the bill.

Location: SB 1402 passed the Senate and the Assembly without a single "no" vote. It is on the Senate Floor for Concurrence with amendments from the Assembly.

Position: Sponsor/Support

SB 1550 (Wright) Community Colleges: Extension Courses

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1550 authorizes the Community College Chancellor's Office to select up to five campuses for the purpose of establishing a pilot extension program offering career and workforce training credit courses. Pilot campuses will be permitted to charge students the full cost of instruction. The bill requires the extension programs to be self-supporting and open to the public, and prohibits districts from supplanting regularly-funded courses with extension courses. The Senate Committee on Education added new amendments that limit the scope of the bill and prohibit the ability of a district not participating in the pilot to create a two tiered fee structure for regular credit and extension courses.

Location: Senate Bill 1550 passed the Senate, and was held in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.

Other

AB 852 (Fong) Part Time Faculty: Return Rights

Analysis/Summary: This bill would require that the return rights of temporary faculty be negotiated fully in the collective bargaining process. These provisions will expire on January 1, 2020.

Comments: AB 852 was amended in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Location: Senate Floor

AB 1434 (Feuer) Child Abuse Reporting: Mandated Reporters

Analysis/Summary: The bill adds employees of public or private higher education institutions as "mandated reporters" who are charged with reporting child abuse or neglect that occurs on the institution's grounds.

Comments: This bill may be duplicative of existing law. Penal Code §11165.7 lists teachers, teacher's aids, and classified employees of public schools as "mandated reporters". The Chancellor's Office Legal Affairs Division

(Legal Opinion 02-03 Child Reporting) and California Attorney General (72ops.ca.atty.gen216 of 1989) apply the broad interpretation of these definitions to include community college staff and faculty.

Location: Senate Floor.

SB 35 (Padilla) Voter Registration Agencies

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 35 is a recent gut-and-amend that would require some public agencies to become voter registration agencies.

Comments: Recent amendments removed community colleges.

Location: Assembly Floor.

SB 1264 (Vargas) Child Abuse Reporting: Mandated Reporters

Analysis/Summary: SB 1264 adds any athletic coach, assistant coach and graduate assistant involved in coaching to the list of individuals who are mandated reporters at a public or private postsecondary institution.

Location: SB 1264 passed the Senate and the Assembly Committees and is on the Assembly Floor.

Student Fees and Financial Aid

AB 1500 (J. Perez) Budget Higher Education: Middle Class Scholarship Fund

Analysis/Summary: Assembly Bill 1500 requires that for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, current tax law affecting multistate businesses is repealed, and instead requires that calculations regarding the California income tax liability be based on the percentage of business sales in California. This formula is referred to as a "single factor formula". AB 1500 is an urgency bill and double-joined with AB 1501, which specifies that the proceeds from this taxation would be deposited in the Middle Class Scholarship Fund established in AB 1501.

Comments: The intent of AB 1500 is to raise taxes on out-of-state corporations and generate enough revenue to cut college tuition and fees by two-thirds for middle-income college students in California.

Location: Assembly Bill 1500 passed the Assembly and both policy and fiscal committees of the Senate, and is on the Senate floor.

Position: Support

AB 1501 (J. Perez) Budget Higher Education: Middle Class Scholarship Program

Analysis/Summary: Assembly Bill 1501, the companion measure to AB 1500, provides a continuous annual appropriation of \$150 million to community college districts, distributed on a full-time equivalent student's basis, to help defray college costs. It provides the community colleges with local discretion to allocate the funds to meet individual needs, including expanding the use of fee waivers or providing grants to cover the costs of books, transportation, or other educational expenses. The bill also provides that, commencing with the 2012-13 academic year, undergraduate students who attend UC and CSU and whose family annual incomes does not exceed \$150,000, are eligible to receive a scholarship that when combined with other financial aid awarded to the student would reduce by at least two-thirds, the amount charged for annual systemwide fees. AB 1501 can only be operative if AB 1500 also passes.

Location: Assembly Bill 1501 passed the Assembly and both policy and fiscal committees of the Senate, and was sent to the Senate floor.

Position: Support

AB 1899 (Mitchell) Nonresident Tuition Exemption and Financial Aid Eligibility: Crime Victims

Analysis/Summary: Assembly Bill 1899 requires that refugees admitted to the United States on a special “T” or “U” nonimmigrant status shall be exempt from paying nonresident tuition at the California State University and the California Community Colleges. It also requires that they be eligible for all student financial aid programs and scholarships administered by a public postsecondary educational institution or the State of California. The “T” and “U” visas were developed for victims of human trafficking, domestic violence, and other serious crimes. To qualify for this particular nonimmigrant status, survivors are required to cooperate with law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute criminal activities. This summary is based on the current amended version of the bill, dated April 9, 2012.

Comments: Nonresident students who meet criteria established by AB 540 (Cedillo) of 2011 are exempt from out-of-state tuition and fees at the California State University and the California Community Colleges. However, students granted “T” or “U” visas are not eligible for resident tuition and fees because AB 540 provisions exclude holders of nonimmigrant visas. Assembly Bill 1899 enables these students to use the AB 540 pathway. The number of affected students is small, an estimated 75 to 100 students per year. The bill is sponsored by MALDEF and the California Immigrant Policy Center.

Location: Assembly Bill 1899 passed the Assembly and Senate and will be sent to the Governor.

Position: Support

SB 1289 (Corbett) Private Student Loans

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1289 requires public and private postsecondary educational institutions, and requests participation from the community colleges, to make disclosures available to students regarding private student loans in financial aid materials and in private loan applications.

Location: Senate Bill 1289 passed the Assembly and Senate and will be sent to the Governor.

SB 1356 (De Leon) Income Taxes: Credits for Contributions to Education Funds

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1356 would allow, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013, taxpayers to receive a tax credit for 65 percent of any contributions made to the newly established Higher Education Investment Tax Credit Program Special Fund. The bill would also provide taxpayers with an available tax credit worth up to 25 percent on federal returns. Contributions from the Tax Credit Fund would be directed to the California Student Aid Commission. The Senate Committee on Education recommended several amendments including language to ensure that these funds can be used to ensure that low-income students do not lose their eligibility for Cal Grant awards. (See SB 1466 below.)

Comments: The purpose of this bill is to expand Cal Grants to middle-income Californians by increasing funding for the Cal Grant program through specified charitable contributions. For each of the years of the program, the Commission would have an average of an extra \$300 million to extend Cal Grant eligibility.

Location: Senate Bill 1356 was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense file.

SB 1466 (De Leon) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Eligibility

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1466 changes existing law regarding the maximum annual household income for Cal Grant recipients, commencing with the 2014-15 academic year, and increases it to \$100,000. The bill specifies that provisions of SB 1466 remain in effect until all funds in the Higher Education Investment Tax Credit Program Special Fund are expended. The bill also specifies that it is operative only if Senate Bill 1356 is enacted.

Comments: This bill is double-joined with SB 1356. The increase in eligible Cal Grant awards would be paid with funds from the Higher Education Investment Tax Credit Fund, as proposed by SB 1356 (de Leon).

Location: Senate Bill 1466 passed the Senate and both policy and fiscal committees of the Assembly, and was sent to the Assembly floor.

Student Success and Transfer

AB 2001 (Bonilla) Pupil Assessment

Analysis/Summary: Assembly Bill 2001 requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to develop plans to tie assessments for pupils in grades 7 to 12 to college and career readiness. The SPI is required to consult with the segments of public and private higher education, among others, to develop recommendations to the State Board of Education to strengthen alignment of assessments in grades 7-12 to college and career preparedness and develop a plan to expand and strengthen future early assessments programs such as the EAP. The SPI is also required to develop incentives to make assessment more meaningful to students.

Location: Assembly Bill 2001 passed the Assembly, but was held in the Senate Appropriation Committee Suspense file.

Position: Support

AB 2471 (Lara) Postsecondary Education: E-Textbooks

Analysis/Summary: Assembly Bill 2471 requires community college districts, the CSU and requests the UC to adopt policies to prohibit the use of e-textbooks unless they are offered with a refund policy and offered with digital rights management information (such as how long the consumer can access the e-textbook and how much material can be printed).

Location: Assembly Bill 2471 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was held in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

SB 721 (Lowenthal) State Goals for Higher Education

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 721 establishes an overarching higher education accountability framework that includes statewide goals for higher education. The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) would be required to convene a working group which would include one representative from each segment of higher education, among others, to establish metrics, measure progress towards these goals, and report annually to the Legislature.

Location: Senate Bill 721 passed the Senate and the Assembly, and was sent to the Senate for Concurrence with amendments in the Senate.

Position: Support

SB 1052 (Steinberg) California Open Education Resources Council

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1052 establishes the California Open Education Resources Council (composed of three faculty senate members from each of the segments), which would determine a list of the 50 most popular lower division courses to develop into open source materials. The council would also establish a competitive request for proposal process in which interested parties can apply for funds to produce the 50 textbooks. Recent amendments provide that the council be placed under the administration of the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senate (ICAS).

Location: Senate Bill 1052 passed the Senate and both policy and fiscal committees of the Assembly, and was sent to the Assembly floor.

Position: Support

SB 1053 (Steinberg) California Digital Open Source Library

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1053 would establish the California Digital Open Source Library to house open source materials and provide free or low cost online access to these materials for students, faculty and staff. Recent amendments provide that the library be administered by California State University in coordination with California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and the University of California. Materials shall bear a creative commons attribution license. The bill states intent that the segments provide incentives to faculty to choose open source textbooks.

Location: Senate Bill 1053 passed the Senate and both policy and fiscal committees of the Assembly, and was sent to the Assembly floor.

Position: Support

SB 1062 (Liu) California Community Colleges: Board of Governors

Analysis/Summary: SB 1062 would allow the Board of Governors to appoint a person without permanent civil service status to the classification of Career Executive Assignment (CEA) for the positions of Vice Chancellor or assistant Vice Chancellor, if the person meets specified education and relevant work experience requirements. The CEA classification currently can be used to fill Vice Chancellor positions, if the candidate has permanent civil service status, has worked in the Legislature or Executive branch for a specified period of time.

Location: SB 1062 passed the Senate and the Assembly and was sent to the Governor, but has been returned to the Assembly.

Position: Sponsor/Support

SB 1316 (Hancock) School Attendance: Early College High School

Analysis/Summary Senate Bill 1316 would allow Early College High Schools to draw down full ADA for 180 minutes as a minimum school day attendance requirement. It also allows Early College High School 11th and 12th grade students enrolled part-time in classes at the California State University or the University of California to be exempt from the 240 minute minimum school day requirement and instead meet a 180 minute minimum school day. Community College Early College High School students already are only required to meet the 180 minute minimum school day requirement.

Comments: Currently, schools are only funded at 75% of their ADA for students who fall under the 180 minute minimum school day requirement.

Location: Senate Bill 1316 was signed by the Governor and will take effect January 1, 2013.

SB 1328 (De Leon) Postsecondary Education Textbooks

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1328 would originally have required publishers to provide information about textbooks in a specified order. Amendments taken June 26th, however, would have placed contractual restrictions and high costs onto campus bookstores in the development of faculty and student textbook search engines. Privacy concerns were also raised with requirements that bookstores provide purchasing information to outside companies.

Location: Senate Bill 1328 passed the Senate, and was held in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education. The bill was dropped by the author due to widespread opposition by the higher education community.

SB 1456 (Lowenthal) Student Success Act of 2012

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1456 is the “centerpiece” legislation resulting from the 2011 Student Success Task Force recommendations and is sponsored by the Board of Governors to help students meet their academic and career goals. The bill revises the Seymour-Campbell Matriculation Act of 1986 to reflect the recommendations of the Student Success Act of 2012. Specifically, the bill would target matriculation funds for student orientation, assessment, and education planning and require entering students at campuses receiving matriculation funds to participate in those services once approved by the BOG. The bill specifies that the BOG establish minimum satisfactory academic standards to retain eligibility for BOG Fee Waivers.

Location: Senate Bill 1456 passed the Senate and both policy and fiscal committees of the Assembly, and was sent to the Assembly floor.

Position: Sponsor/Support

SB 1539 (Corbett) Postsecondary Education Textbooks

Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1539 would require textbook publishers to provide price and content comparison information to faculty at public and private higher education institutions to help them choose the least expensive textbook for students that meet their course needs. The bill also expands the definition of textbook products to include materials in digital or electronic formats.

Comments: This bill is a re-introduction of SB 832 (Corbett) of 2007 which was sponsored by Cal PIRG and vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger. SB 832 was supported by the Chancellor’s Office.

Location: Senate Bill 1539 was signed by the Governor and will take effect January 1, 2013.

Position: Support

Veterans Issues

AB 1976 (Logue) Licensure and Certification Requirements: Military Experience

Analysis/Summary: AB 1976 would establish the Veterans Health Care Workforce Act of 2012 and require specific healing arts boards in the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and on the Department of Public Health (DPH) to recognize military experience and education in health care related occupations to expedite licensing. This bill also places requirements on institutions to have a process in place to recognize the academic training in the military.

Location: AB 1976 passed in the Assembly Veterans Committee but was held in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

AB 2133 (Blumenfield) Veterans: Priority Registration and Resident Classification

Analysis/Summary: AB 2133 would extend the time period in which California Community Colleges are required to grant priority registration for enrollment of veterans from four to 15 years of leaving state or federal active duty. This would apply to all degree and certificate programs offered by the California Community Colleges.

Comments: The Chancellor’s Office requested an amendment to ensure that AB 2133 would link to the priority enrollment recommendations from the Student Success Task Force. AB 2133 was recently amended to require verification of the student’s status as a veteran.

Location: AB 2133 passed the Assembly and the Senate and was sent to the Governor.

Position: Support

AB 2250 (B. Gaines) Public Postsecondary Education: Nonresident Tuition: Military Members

Analysis/Summary: AB 2250 was amended to waive nonresident fees for veterans or their spouses at the California State University and California Community Colleges if he or she files an affidavit with a college stating that it is his or her intent to establish residency.

Comments: The recent amendments now make AB 2250 very similar to AB 2478. However, AB 2478 does not affect the spouse of student veterans and does not place requirements on the California State University.

Location: AB 2250 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and the Assembly Veterans Committee and was held by the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

Position: Support

AB 2462 (Block) Academic Credit for Prior Academic Military Experience

Analysis/Summary: This bill requires the Chancellor's Office to implement a process for awarding credit for prior military experience and encourages community colleges to facilitate the acceptance of credits for prior military academic experience. The bill also encourages that a college use the guidelines established by the American Council on Education or other appropriate body.

Comments: The Chancellor's Office provided technical assistance to the Assembly Higher Education Committee. Assemblymembers Silva and Fuentes introduced similar bills this year, and Assemblymember Hernandez introduced a bill last year that was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Location: AB 2462 passed the Assembly and the Senate and is in the Assembly for Concurrence with Senate amendments.

Position: Support

AB 2478 (Hayashi) Student Residency Requirements: Veterans

Analysis/Summary: AB 2478 amends the Education Code to exempt former members of the Armed Services from paying nonresident tuition at community colleges for one year after discharge as long as the student files an affidavit with the community college stating that he or she intends to establish residency in California.

Location: AB 2478 passed the Assembly and the Senate Floor, and is back in the Assembly for Concurrence with Senate amendments.

Position: Support

AB 2534 (Block) Community Colleges: Veterans Career Technical Education Course Credit Pilot

Analysis/Summary: AB 2534 requires the Chancellor's Office to establish a voluntary pilot program to authorize a community college district to identify and develop best practices for a statewide policy on awarding credit for experiential learning for veterans for credit, certificates, and associate degrees. Participating colleges are required to report information to the Legislative Analyst's Office for evaluation by December 1, 2017. Participating colleges are authorized to approve credit courses in accordance with Education Code Section 70901 for the duration of the program.

Location: AB 2534 passed the Assembly, but was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

ACR 159 (Gorell and Ma) Postsecondary Education: Military Veterans

Analysis/Summary: ACR 159 encourages California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California to consider and adopt the American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations

to give veterans academic credit for academic instruction and experiential learning they gained while serving in the military.

Comments: ACR 159 was introduced on June 11, 2012 and is similar in substance to AB 2462 (Block) and other measures advocating the use of the ACE guidelines for college credit. As an Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR), this measure must be approved by both Houses to take effect but doesn't require the Governor's signature.

Location: ACR 159 passed the Assembly and was sent to the Senate Rules Committee.

Position: Support