



May 4, 2015

### OVERVIEW

With the deadline of May 1 for policy committees to hear bills with a fiscal effect, the fate of a number of bills is currently being determined. Because this is the first year of the two-year session, bills that do not meet the deadline are still “alive” because they can be heard next year. The measures that are not moving forward this year, but are still viable are called “two-year bills” and are often held back to resolve concerns raised by opposition parties or because more information is needed. As bills move forward they are often amended to comply with amendments recommended by policy committee staff and may be amended further if they move on to the Appropriations Committees to reduce the costs of the bill. Interested parties should continue to review the bill analyses and monitor changes in the measures after they pass in the committees. The next major deadline for bills will be on May 29, 2015, when measures must pass the Appropriations Committees in order to continue to move forward this year.

For details and copies of any bill, please contact the Governmental Relations Division of the Chancellor’s Office or visit the Legislative Counsel’s website at: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov> or its new website at: <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. The new website allows you to compare prior versions of the measure, review proposed changes in the law as amended, etc.

### Assembly Introduces Bill to Address Corinthian Colleges Closure

On April 26, 2015, Corinthian Colleges, Inc. (CCI) announced that it had “ceased operations and discontinued instruction” at all Heald, Everest, and WyoTech campuses, just two weeks after the U.S. Department of Education announced it was fining the company \$30 million for misleading students and falsifying job-placement rates. In California, this action displaces more than 10,000 students. In response to the crisis facing thousands of CCI students, the California State Assembly is introducing bipartisan legislation to ensure that students have access to educational opportunity, economic relief, and legal aid. AB 573, currently a bill on financial aid, will be amended and authored by Assembly Members Jose Medina, Kevin McCarty and coauthored by Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins and Assembly Minority Leader Kristin Olsen. AB 573 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee in its amended form. The legislation will be an urgency measure requiring a two-thirds vote. It is intended to allow these students to achieve their educational goals, with the California Community Colleges providing a significant portion of assistance. Based on information currently available, the Assembly proposal would:

- Waive community college fees for all California students harmed by the closure of CCI;
- Provide funding for community college counselors to assist students in transferring to and enrolling in programs;
- Provide legal assistance to help students, including student veterans, with the loan forgiveness process;
- Make all students attending high-risk, for-profit colleges eligible for the California Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF), allowing Heald students and Californians enrolled in distance education courses to be eligible for tuition recovery under California’s STRF;
- Restore the years of Cal Grant eligibility for Heald students to ensure that they are not harmed by the four-year award limitation in the Cal Grant program;
- Increase the statutory limit on STRF from \$25 million to \$50 million in order to ensure the STRF has sufficient funds to support all students when large for-profit institutions close abruptly. (Institutions would be required to begin paying into the STRF immediately); and,

- Establish the Closed Schools Task Force within the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to ensure that students are provided with accurate and consistent information from the agencies involved in the school closure process.

## **BILLS OF INTEREST**

### **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

- **AB 288 (Holden) Public Schools: College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) Partnerships.** AB 288 encourages a modest expansion of voluntary dual enrollment partnerships by reducing fiscal penalties and policy barriers that currently limit such collaborations. The bill authorizes a community college district and K-12 school district to enter into a formal CCAP partnership with the goal developing seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer, or helping high school students achieve college and career readiness, or improving high school graduation rates.
  - Position: Sponsor/Support
  - Status: AB 288 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and Assembly Education Committee and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 542 (Wilk) Community Colleges: Early and Middle College High Schools.** AB 542 exempts Early College High School (ECHS) and Middle College High School (MCHS) students from the lowest priority enrollment consideration. The bill allows a community college to claim state apportionments for MCHS and ECHS students enrolled in physical education courses beyond the 5 percent statutory cap and exempts these students from the 10 percent cap regarding enrollment in community college summer courses.
  - Status: AB 542 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was placed in the Suspense File in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 770 (Irwin) Community Colleges: Basic Skills and Innovation Strategies.** AB 770 creates the Community Colleges Basic Skills Innovation Program, which would establish a fund in the Chancellor’s Office to provide grants to selected community college districts which seek to improve their basic skills programming.
  - Position: Support, if amended
  - Status: AB 770 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 889 (Chang) Concurrent Enrollment in Secondary School and Community College.** AB 889 authorizes a community college district to assign an enrollment priority to high school students participating in a STEM partnership who seek to enroll in college math and science courses. The bill would also exempt STEM partnership students from the 5 percent enrollment cap regarding high school students in community college courses during summer terms.
  - Status: AB 889 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and the Assembly Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1112 (Lopez) Adult Education: Consortia: Parenting Education: Family Literacy Education.** AB 1112 specifies that, for the purposes of adult education courses, parenting education includes family literacy education, in order to support children from households with limited English proficiency.
  - Status: AB 1112 has been assigned to both the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and the Assembly Education Committee, but failed passage in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.
- **SB 634 (Block): Postsecondary Education: Interstate Reciprocity.** SB 634 creates a process for California to join the Statewide Authorization Reciprocity Agreement consortium which provides oversight for online and distance education courses offered across state lines.

- Position: Support
- Status: SB 634 was scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee, but was removed from the agenda and is now a two-year bill, eligible to be heard next year.

### **CAMPUS CLIMATE/CAMPUS SAFETY**

- **AB 340 (Weber) Postsecondary Education: Campus Climate Report.** AB 340 declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require governing bodies of the higher education systems to submit a report once every two years to the legislature on campus climate.
  - Status: AB 340 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 636 (Medina) Student Safety.** AB 636 authorizes postsecondary education institutions to disclose the identity of a student or employee who is accused of a violent crime, sexual assault, or hate crime to local law enforcement if the institution determines that the alleged assailant represents a serious and ongoing threat to the safety of persons or the institution and if the immediate assistance of police is necessary to contact or detain the assailant. AB 1433 (Gatto), signed into law last year, requires colleges to report serious crimes to local law enforcement if the crimes occur on campus or involve students or employees. That bill included language prohibiting the disclosure of the accused assailant’s identity to local law enforcement if the victim declined to be identified. AB 636 allows colleges to identify the accused (not the victim) if the college determines that the accused assailant poses a serious and ongoing threat to campus safety.
  - Status: AB 636 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to Assembly Committee on Public Safety.
  
- **AB 767 (Santiago) Community Colleges: Emergency Preparedness Standards.** AB 767 requires the Chancellor's Office to update emergency preparedness standards by January 1, 2017, and every 5 years thereafter, and to consider including an active shooter response plan.
  - Status: AB 767 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Assembly Appropriations Committee and awaits a vote on the Assembly floor.
  
- **AB 967 (Williams) Sexual Assault Case Procedures.** AB 967 requires the governing board of each community college district to adopt and carry out a uniform process for disciplinary proceedings relating to any claims of sexual assault. This uniform process would be required to include a two-year minimum suspension for specified violations. The bill would additionally require the governing board of each community college district to report data relating to cases of alleged sexual assault, including:
  - The number of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking complaints received by the institution.
  - The number of complaints investigated by the institution and the number that were not investigated.
  - The number of investigations in which the respondents were found responsible at the disciplinary proceedings of the institution and the number of investigations in which the respondents were not found responsible.
  - The number of disciplinary sanctions imposed on respondents who were found responsible disaggregated by following categories: expulsion, suspension of at least two years, suspension of fewer than two years, probation.
  - Status: AB 967 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 968 (Williams) Transcripts: Expulsion Note.** AB 968 requires the governing board of each community college district to indicate on a student’s transcript when the student is ineligible to reenroll due to suspension or expulsion for the period of time the student is ineligible to reenroll.

- Status: AB 968 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Appropriations Committee and was placed in the Suspense File.
- **AB 969 (Williams) Community College: Removal, Suspension, Expulsion.** Similar to SB 186, AB 969 extends the authority of a district to discipline a student for an offense that happens off campus but threatens the safety of students and the public, whether that conduct occurs on or off campus. AB 969 expands a district’s authority to deny enrollment to an individual who has been expelled in the last five years or is currently suspended for a sexual assault or sexual battery offense from another community college district. The bill would also authorize a community college district to require a student seeking admission to inform the community college district if he or she has been previously suspended from a community college in the state for rape, sexual assault, or sexual battery. A hearing to appeal the district’s decision would be required if a district chose to deny enrollment.
  - Status: AB 969 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1365 (Baker) Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Program.** AB 1365 appropriates an unspecified amount to each higher education segment for rape and sexual assault education programs.
  - Status: AB 1365 was not heard in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and is now a two-year bill, eligible to be heard next year.
- **SB 186 (Jackson) Community College Districts: Removal, Suspension, or Expulsion.** SB 186 clarifies that state law does not prohibit districts from taking disciplinary action against students for off campus behavior if the district is doing so to comply with federal law, such as the Clery Act, Title IX, Violence Against Women Act, etc. SB 186 also adds sexual assault to the list of “good cause” reason to remove, suspend, or expel a student and defines sexual assault for those purposes. The definitions used in his bill are those provided by the White House’s Task Force on Campus Sexual Assault.
  - Status: SB 186 passed the Senate Education Committee and was passed off the Senate Floor on a 35-0. It will next be heard in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.
- **SB 691 (Morrell) Postsecondary Education: Student Code of Conduct.** SB 691 requires the Board of Governors to do all of the following regarding the student code of conduct: make it available to prospective students before enrollment, develop a method of testing prospective students’ knowledge of the code as a condition of enrollment, and set a standard for a prospective student to demonstrate knowledge of the code before beginning classes.
  - Status: SB 691 was not heard in the Senate Education Committee and is now a two-year bill, eligible to be heard next year.
- **SB 665 (Block) Postsecondary Education: Preventing and Addressing Incidents of Rape and Sexual Assault.** SB 665 would establish a Title IX oversight office within the California Department of Justice and requires that colleges provide sexual assault awareness training to all students on an annual basis.
  - Status: SB 665 passed the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

#### **CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION, CONTRACT EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- **AB 1474 (Chávez) Community College Career Technical Education Bond Act.** AB 1474 enacts the Community College Career Technical Education Bond Act to put a bond measure on

the statewide general election ballot for a \$500,000,000 bond to finance community college career technical education facilities and equipment.

- Status: AB 1474 was sent to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.
- **SB 66 (Leyva) Career Technical Education Pathways Program.** SB 66 would extend until July 1, 2018, the Career Technical Education Pathways Program originally established by SB 70, a bill by Senator Jack Scott that was chaptered in 2005 and extended by SB 1070 (Steinberg) chaptered in 2012.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: SB 66 was assigned to the Senate Education Committee, but was not heard and is now a two-year bill.

## FACILITIES

- **AB 6 (Wilk) Bonds: Transportation: School Facilities.** AB 6 details that no further bonds shall be sold for high-speed rail purposes pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century. This measure requires that the net proceeds of other bonds be made available to fund construction of school facilities for K-12 and higher education.
  - Status: AB 6 was heard by the Assembly Education Committee, but it failed to gain enough votes for passage. Reconsideration was granted, allowing the bill another opportunity to be heard in the future, and it is now a two-year bill.
- **AB 148 (Holden) K-14 School Investment Bond Act of 2016.** AB 148 places an initiative on a statewide election ballot for a bond to fund K-12 and community college facilities projects. The election date and dollar amount are unspecified at this time.
  - Status: AB 148 passed in the Assembly Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.
- **AB 1088 (O'Donnell) Education Facilities Bond Act: Greene Act.** AB 1088 places an initiative on a statewide election ballot for a bond to fund Kindergarten through University system facilities projects. The election date and dollar amount are unspecified at this time.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 1088 passed in the Assembly Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 114 (Liu) Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016.** Similar, to AB 148, SB 114 places an initiative on the November 2016 statewide ballot for a bond to fund facilities projects at K-12 schools, community colleges, CSU, and UC. SB 114 does not specify a dollar amount.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: SB 114 passed in the Senate Education Committee and the Senate Governance and Finance Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## FACULTY

- **AB 626 (Low) Community College: Employees.** AB 626 would repeal the requirement to expend a portion of the program improvement allocation to increase the ratio of full-time to part-time faculty and instead require expenditures of Student Success and Support Program funds enable community colleges to reach the 75 percent standard for full-time instruction. The bill would specify purposes for which allocations of these funds could be made by community college districts that had not reached the 75 percent standard.
  - Status: AB 626 passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

- **AB 1010 (Medina) Community Colleges: Part-Time, Temporary Employees.** AB 1010 specifies minimum standards for the treatment of part-time, temporary faculty to be met by community college collective bargaining agreements. The bill urges community college districts without a collective bargaining agreement in effect as of January 1, 2016, to negotiate with the exclusive representatives for part-time, temporary faculty regarding the terms and conditions required by the bill.
  - Status: AB 1010 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee
  
- **SB 373 (Pan) California Community Colleges: Overload Assignment.** SB 373 requires community college districts to report to the Board of Governors, by March 31, 2016, the total number of full-time equivalent faculty (FTEF) attributable to part-time temporary faculty and to contract or regular faculty while working on overload assignments during the period July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015, inclusive. Effective July 1, 2016, the bill would require that reported number to become that district's maximum allowable number of FTEF positions that may be staffed by part-time temporary faculty and by contract or regular faculty while working on overload assignments until the district's full-time faculty percentage is greater than or equal to 75 percent. Governing boards will be required to determine if a district is in compliance. In the cases of serious hardship the district will be allowed to file for an exemption. This bill would prohibit a district from assigning a person hired as a contract faculty member after July 1, 2016, to teach any overload assignment in excess of the equivalent of a full-time teaching load until the person achieves tenured status as a full-time faculty member.
  - Status: SB 373 passed in the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## FINANCE AND FUNDING

- **SB 605 (Gaines) Community Colleges: Nonresident Tuition Exemption for Nevada Students.** SB 605 exempts students who attend Lake Tahoe Community College and who have residence in one of several designated communities in Nevada from the nonresident tuition fee. These students may be reported as resident students for the purposes of state funded apportionment. Provisions of the bill will remain inoperative until the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges enters into an interstate attendance agreement with the Nevada System of Higher Education that provides reciprocal rights to California residents attending Western Nevada College that reasonably conform to the benefits conferred upon Nevada residents by this bill.
  - Status: SB 605 passed in the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## GOVERNANCE

- **AB 404 (Chiu) Community Colleges: Accreditation.** AB 404 (Chiu) Community Colleges: Accreditation. AB 404 would require the California Community College Chancellor's Office to create a survey that would be distributed to all 112 community colleges, regarding the evaluation of the current regional community college accrediting agency. From the collected data the Chancellor's Office will create a report to be transmitted to the United States Department of Education and the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.
  - Status: AB 404 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 986 (Gipson) Community Colleges: Compton Community College District.** AB 986 requires the Chancellor to report to the Legislature concerning the priorities identified in each

Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) report and to provide a response on how the Chancellor intends to resolve the issues identified in the FCMAT report in a timely manner.

- Status: AB 986 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1385 (Ting) Community College: Accreditation.** AB 1385 prohibits the accrediting agency from imposing a special assessment on community colleges to pay for the accrediting agency's legal fees for any lawsuit unless there has been an affirmative vote of the majority of the chief executive officers, or their designees, of all of the community colleges.
  - Status: AB 1385 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1397 (Ting) Community College: Accreditation.** AB 1397 enacts the California Community Colleges Fair Accreditation Act of 2015. It requires that at least 50 percent of each visiting accreditation team from the accrediting agency for the California Community Colleges be composed of academic personnel as defined in the bill. The bill prohibits persons with a conflict of interest from serving on a visiting accreditation team. The bill requires the accrediting agency to conduct the meetings of its decision making body to ensure the ability of members of the public to attend those meetings. AB 1397 also requires the accrediting agency to preserve all documents generated during an accreditation-related review. AB 1397 requires the agency's accreditation-related decisions to be based on written, published standards in accordance with state and federal statutes and regulations.
  - Status: AB 1397 passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee with amendments to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 42 (Liu) Commission on Higher Education Performance.** SB 42 revises the California Postsecondary Education Commission and creates the California Commission on Higher Education Performance and Accountability. SB 42 would exclude representatives from postsecondary institutions from serving as board members on the proposed commission and eliminate the authority of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to appoint a representative to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.
  - Position: Concern
  - Status: SB 42 passed the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- **SCA 1 (Lara) University of California: Legislative Control.** SCA 1 proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to repeal the constitutional provisions relating to the University of California and the regents. This measure subjects the university and the regents to legislative control as may be provided by statute. SCA 1 prohibits the Legislature from enacting any law that restrains academic freedom or imposes educational or curricular requirements on students.
  - Status: SCA 1 was sent to both the Senate Education and Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committees.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **AB 176 (Bonta) Data Collection.** AB 176 requires the segments of higher education and State Department of Public Health to collect data on specified Asian and Pacific Islander subgroups and post the data on their respective websites by July 2016.
  - Status: AB 176 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and the Assembly Committee on Health and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

- **AB 653 (Levine): Intersegmental Coordination: Information Technology.** AB 653 seeks to improve coordination among the segments of higher education for major technology purchases.
  - Status: AB 653 passed in the Assembly and was sent to the Senate for assignment to a policy committee.
- **AB 798 (Bonilla): Course Material Accessibility.** AB 798 seeks to lower textbook expenses for students by creating incentives for campuses to use Open Educational Resources.
  - Position: Support, if amended
  - Status: AB 798 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 963 (Bonilla) Teachers' Retirement Law.** AB 963 revises the definition of creditable service for purposes of the Defined Benefit Program and the Cash Balance Benefit Program.
  - Status: AB 963 passed the Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 996 (Medina) State Teachers' Retirement System: Investment Products.** AB 996 requires all local school districts, community college districts, and county offices of education to adopt a policy addressing the solicitation of 403(b) products, as defined, by vendors on school campuses.
  - Status: AB 996 passed the Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1503 (Perea) Telecommunications Universal Service Programs: Teleconnect Fund.** In addition to K-12 Schools, Community Colleges, and other organizations, AB 1503 adds auxiliary organizations of the California State University system to those eligible for the Teleconnect Fund.
  - Status: AB 1503 passed in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

## STUDENT SERVICES

- **AB 801 (Bloom) Success for Homeless Youth in Higher Education Act.** AB 801 establishes priority enrollment for homeless students and makes them eligible for a Board of Governors fee waiver.
  - Status: AB 801 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1016 (Santiago) Public Postsecondary Education: Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act.** AB 1016 would require the Chancellor's Office to report to the Legislature on the status of each community college's compliance with statutory requirements related to creating Associate Degrees for Transfer.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 1016 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 1366 (Lopez) Public Postsecondary Education: Dream Resource Centers.** AB 1366 (Lopez) Dream Resource Centers. AB 1366 would require the governing boards of community college districts to establish on-campus Dream Resource Centers to provide educational support services for undocumented students. Though AB 1366 would create significant additional costs for community colleges, the bill does not include additional state resources.
  - Position: Support, if amended
    - Community colleges need additional state funds to comply with this bill.
  - Status: AB 1366 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.



- **SB 425 (Hernandez) Concurrent Enrollment in Secondary School and Community College.** SB 425 authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to provide state certification that allows regional occupational centers and programs, county offices of education, or adult schools that provide workforce training programs to continue participating in federal student financial assistance programs. SB 425 shares similarities to AB 907, and both amend Education Code Section 52344.7. SB 425 adds language authorizing the SPI to decertify these entities if they are not in compliance with federal laws and regulations and adopt regulations regarding a student complaint process under the Uniform Complaint Procedures, as set forth in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
  - Position: Watch
  - Status: SB 425 passed the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### TUITION, FEES, FINANCIAL AID

- **AB 25 (Gipson) Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program: Renewal.** AB 25 requires the Student Aid Commission to establish an appeal process for an otherwise qualified institution that fails to satisfy the 3-year cohort default rate and graduation rate requirements under the Cal Grant program.
  - Status: AB 25 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 82 (Garcia) US Selective Service: Financial Aid Ineligibility.** Similar to last year's AB 2201 (Chávez), AB 82 establishes a program through the Department of Motor Vehicles to register males between 18 and 26 years old for Selective Service when they submit an application for an original or a renewal of a driver's license. AB 82 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the provisions of this bill by a certain date only if the first year operating costs do not exceed \$350,000 and federal funding in an amount sufficient to pay for those costs has been provided.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 82 passed in the Assembly Transportation Committee, and was sent to the Appropriations Committee.
- **AB 200 (Alejo) Student Financial Aid: Competitive Cal Grants Awards.** AB 200 increases the total number of Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards granted annually over a period of three years from 22,500 up to a maximum of 100,000 awards by 2018-19. AB 200 specifies that in the first year awards would increase to 45,000, in the second year total awards would increase to 80,000, and in year three the cap increases to 100,000 awards.
  - Position: Support, if amended
    - The Chancellor's Office recommends increasing the maximum individual Cal Grant B award instead of increasing total number of Competitive Cal Grant awards.
  - Status: AB 200 was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense file.
- **AB 721 (Medina) Student Financial Aid: Private Student Loans.** AB 721 requires community colleges to comply with private loan disclosure and average graduate debt disclosure requirements prior to certifying a student's eligibility for a private loan. AB 721 would also require a campus to notify students if a college does not participate in the federal loan program and advise students that they may be eligible for federal loans at other community colleges.
  - Position: Concern
  - Status: AB 721 was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense file.

- **AB 907 (Burke) Career Training: Adult Students.** AB 907 authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to certify that each regional occupational center or program, county office of education, or adult education program that provides workforce training programs is legally eligible to participate in federal Title IV programs, of the Higher Education Act of 1965. This bill also requires the SPI to adopt a student complaint process under the Uniform Complaint Procedures, as set forth in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. AB 907 amends the same section of Education Code as SB 425 (Hernandez).
  - Position: Watch
  - Status: AB 907 passed in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.
  
- **AB 1091 (E. Garcia) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program.** AB 1091 requires the California Student Aid Commission to develop and make available on its Internet Web site an electronic graduation verification template for use by school districts to input and upload graduation verification data for students. AB 1091 would streamline the process of determining student eligibility for Cal Grants.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 1091 passed the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
  
- **SB 15 (Block) Postsecondary Education: Financial Aid.** SB 15 would establish the Graduation Incentive Grant program for transfer students at the California State University. The bill would also increase the number of Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards from 22,500 to 30,000 annual awards.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: SB 15 passed the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
  
- **SB 247 (Lara) Dream Centers: Educational Support Services.** SB 247 would authorize the governing board of a community college district to establish on-campus Dream Centers to provide educational support services for undocumented students. The bill does not include resources to support a center and is permissive, thus ensuring that decisions regarding the establishment of a center would remain at the local level.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: SB 247 passed the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## VETERANS

- **AB 13 (Chávez) Public Postsecondary Education.** AB 13 applies only to community colleges and exempts nonresident students enrolled at a community college using Federal GI bill education benefits from paying out of state tuition to align state law with the federal law, the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACA). AB 13 amends Education Code regarding nonresident tuition for community colleges and authorizes districts to report these students who are exempted from nonresident tuition for purposes of calculating apportionments.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 13 passed in the Assembly Higher Education and was placed in the Suspense file in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 27 (Chávez) Postsecondary Education: Non-Resident Tuition Exemption.** AB 27 amends Education Code for exemptions to residence determination and requires public higher education systems in California to align policies to ensure compliance with the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACA). VACA requires the state's public

postsecondary educational institutions to exempt qualifying nonresident veterans from paying nonresident tuition and fee charges. To ensure compliance with VACA by July 1, 2015, AB 27 is an urgency measure and would take effect upon signature by the Governor.

- Position: Support
  - Status: AB 27 passed in the Assembly and was sent to the Senate.
  
- **AB 393 (Roger Hernández) Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program.** AB 393 establishes the Veteran Resource Centers Grant Program for veteran resource centers at community colleges. AB 393 establishes the Veteran Resource Centers Grant Fund in the State Treasury and would allocate funds upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act for a grant program administered by the Chancellor's Office.
  - Position: Support, if amended
    - The Chancellor's Office supports the concept, but needs AB 393 to identify a funding source.
  - Status: AB 393 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Assembly Veterans Committee and was sent the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 421 (Calderon). Community Colleges: Veterans Counselor.** AB 421 requires the governing board of a community college district to provide a veteran's counselor at each college in their district. AB 421 also requires the Board of Governors to adopt regulations to establish and maintain minimum qualifications for veteran's counselors.
  - Position: Support, if amended
    - The Chancellor's Office supports the concept, but needs AB 421 to identify a funding source.
  - Status: AB 421 passed in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Assembly Veterans Committee and was sent the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
  
- **AB 1361 (Burke) Student Financial Aid Cal Grant Program: Veterans.** AB 1361 eliminates the age limit of 28 years old for applying for Cal Grants for students who are veterans. It is sponsored by the California Student Aid Commission.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 1361 was sent to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and passed on the consent calendar.
  
- **AB 1401 (Baker) Veterans Student Financial Aid.** AB 1401 reinstates expired provisions of state law that requires financial aid information, including the Board of Governors fee waiver and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be made available to each member of the California National Guard, the State Military Reserve, and the Naval Militia who do not have a baccalaureate degree.
  - Position: Support
  - Status: AB 1401 was assigned to the Assembly Veterans Committee and was passed on the consent calendar.
  
- **SB 418 (Morrell) Military Students: Interruption in Attendance.** SB 418 was amended following passage in the Senate Education committee to require the California State University system to comply with federal regulations for readmitting students who are absent due to serving in the uniformed services. Their absence would be considered an interruption in attendance if the total of those absences does not exceed five years. Previously the bill affected all three of the systems of higher education, but the Title 5 regulation limiting continuous enrollment to include absences of up to two years was in the California State University section of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, which was in conflict with federal regulations.

- Status: SB 418 passed the Senate Education Committee with amendments recommended in the analysis and was recommended to the consent calendar of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

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