State Legislative Update

The Legislature continues to be engaged in intense budget negotiations with the Governor. The Governor has until June 27 to take action on the 2012-13 budget bill recently approved by the Legislature. Meanwhile, policy and fiscal committees are in full swing. Policy committees have been addressing a number of substantive issues affecting higher education and the community colleges in areas such as student success, career technical education, online textbooks, veteran student assistance and college affordability in general.

Policy committees have until July 6 to hear and report bills being considered in the second house. The Legislature is then scheduled to take its summer recess from July 6 through August 6. Upon return from recess, the Legislature has until August 17 to hear and report fiscal bills out of the second house. The Legislature will adjourn its two-year session sine die before midnight on August 31.

**BOG Sponsored Bills Making Steady Progress**

The Assembly Higher Education Committee met on June 19 and approved several BOG-sponsored bills that are gaining momentum as they wind their way through the legislative process.

The Committee approved SB 1456 (Lowenthal), the Student Success Act of 2012, and SB 1062 (Liu), the Chancellor’s Office bill, with a bipartisan vote. Senate Bill 1070 (Steinberg), the bill to reauthorize the Career Technical Education Pathways Program was also overwhelmingly approved by the Committee and is being double referred to the Assembly Education Committee. Senate Bill 1402 (Lieu), the BOG’s sponsored bill to reauthorize the Economic and Workforce Development Program will be heard on July 3 in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

The Committee also heard SB 1550 (Wright), a bill that would establish a voluntary pilot program for up to five community college districts to establish an extension program offering career and workforce courses at fee levels that cover the cost of maintaining those courses. The bill failed to be approved by the Committee and was granted reconsideration.

The BOG’s cosponsored bill to address property tax and student fee revenue shortfalls, AB 2591 (Furutani) was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and will not move forward.

**Select Committee Hearing on Career Technical Education, Workforce Development and Student Success Initiatives**

The Assembly Select Committee on Career Technical Education and Workforce Development, chaired by Assemblymember Warren Furutani, will convene a hearing on Thursday, June 21 to address current collaborations and innovation in workforce and industry development and the Student Success Task Force.
recommendations on career technical education at California Community Colleges. The hearing will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Capitol, Room 444.

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 Education Committee and will be heard next in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Position:** Support

**Accountability / Intersegmental / Coordination and Efficiency**

**AB 1741 (Fong) Student Success Infrastructure Act of 2012**

**Analysis/Summary:** Assembly bill 1741 establishes the California Community College (CCC) Student Success and Support Program Act of 2012, for the purpose of: increasing the ratio of faculty counselors to students; restoring categorical programs for student support services; increasing hours of credit instruction taught by full-time instructors; and improving the professionalization of part-time faculty. The bill requires the CCC Board of Governors each fiscal year to develop budget requests that propose sufficient funding to support both the goals of SB 1456 (Lowenthal) of 2012 and this bill.

**Comments:** This bill is sponsored by FACCC.

**Location:** Assembly Bill 1741 passed the Assembly and is located 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.

**Position:** Support
Budget / Finance / Facilities

AB 178 (Gorrell and Ma) State Teachers’ Retirement: Post-Retirement Employment
Analysis/Summary: Current law limits the earnings of a retired public employee to $20,000 per year and exempts retirees that are appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Board of Governors of the Community Colleges to address academic or financial weaknesses in a school district or community college district. This bill would change the earnings limit to one-half of the median final compensation of all members who retired for service during the fiscal year to the fiscal year ending in the previous calendar year and extends the exemption for those appointees to July 1, 2014. This means that the new post-employment earnings limit is expected to be approximately $40,000.

Comments: When a community college district experiences severe financial or academic hardships, the Board of Governors may appoint a special trustee or administrator to oversee the reform process. The exemption in this bill will maintain a large pool of qualified retirees to take these critical but temporary positions. With ongoing budget cuts, more college districts will find themselves in fiscal distress. This bill is expected to be amended to include provisions resulting from the conference committee report on pensions.

Location: This bill is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committee.
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 received apportionment in the state budget from the Legislature. The reimbursement would only apply to a statewide bond passed before January 1, 2017 and eligibility for reimbursement sunsets on January 1, 2018.

Comments: Most districts seeking this option will rely on local bond dollars to start their projects. Currently, before receiving state bond dollars from a state budget project appropriation, districts must sign a “risk letter,” required by the Department of Finance stating that the district is responsible for paying the entire cost of the project if state bonds are not sold.

Location: AB 2164 passed the Assembly and the Senate Committee on Education and was sent to 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.

Comments: In 2005, AB 593 (Frommer), a similar bill, was vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger because it violated surplus property restrictions imposed by the deficit reduction bonds in Proposition 60A. The author’s office has indicated that had AB 593 been signed it would have generated as much as $300 million a year.

Location: AB 2442 passed the Assembly and is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Governmental Organization Committee.
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.

Comments: This is the fifth attempt to address this issue, and like similar bills before this, it proposes to reduce recidivism through education for inmates. This rationale has prompted the Chancellor’s Office to support this bill, and prior versions. All but one of the prior bills was held in the Appropriations Committees because of the potential costs for increasing to the credit rate. The one bill that made it to Governor Schwarzenegger’s desk, SB 413 (Scott) was vetoed.

Location: AB 2655 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee on consent.
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.

Comments: The Chancellor’s Office and a community college district representative were added at our request after the Senate Education Committee passed the bill with a recommendation in the analysis that our system be included. The Field Act places requirements on K-12 and community college districts.

Location: SB 1271 passed the Senate and will be heard in Assembly Education Committee.
Position: Support

SB 1509 (Simitian) Design Build Contracts

Analysis/Summary: SB 1509 would eliminate the sunset date for using of design build contracts. 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 the project’s design and construction together, and accept bids based on quality with cost as a consideration.

Comments: Community College Districts that have used the design build process state that they believe the process saves money 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 is scheduled to be heard in Assembly Education Committee.
Position: Support

CTE / Green Jobs / Energy / Workforce Preparation

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:** We are cosponsoring SB 1070 with the California Department of Education.

**Location:** SB 1070 passed the Senate and the Assembly Higher Education Committee. It will be heard next in the Assembly Education Committee.

**Position:** Sponsor/Support

**SB 1402 (Lieu) Economic Development: California Community Colleges**

**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 has joined as a cosponsor.

**Location:** SB 1402 passed the Senate and will be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy.

**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.

**Comments:** The intent of this bill is to give community colleges added flexibility to meet student demand for course sections by implementing an extension program similar to those offered at UC and CSU. This bill is similar to AB 515 (Brownley) of 2011, which remains in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations’ Suspense File. Senate Bill 1550 is sponsored by the Long Beach Community College District and is much more limited in scope than AB 515.

**Location:** SB 1550 passed the Senate and was granted reconsideration in the Assembly Committee on Higher after failing to get enough votes for approval.

### Other

**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:** Assembly Bill 1434 was introduced in reaction to the Penn State scandal. 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: AB 1434 passed the Assembly and was sent to the Senate Committee on Public Safety.

**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 will be heard in the Assembly Public Safety Committee.

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**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 (MCSF) established in AB 1501.

Comments: The intent of SB 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. The plan to accomplish this goal is contained in two pieces of legislation, AB 1500 and AB 1501. The first bill closes a tax break for out-of-state corporations and the second bill directs the extra revenue generated to a new scholarship program for UC, CSU and community college students. It’s estimated the tax code change would generate close to $1 billion in additional state revenues, of which $150 million annually would be set aside for community college students.

Location: Passed the Assembly Committee on Appropriations and is awaiting a vote on the Assembly floor.
Position: Support

**AB 1501 (J. Perez) Budget Higher Education: Middle Class Scholarship Program**
**Analysis/Summary:** Assembly Bill 1501 provides $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 enrolled at California public four-year colleges and universities would 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. Conditions for eligibility include: an annual household income does not exceed $150,000; the student must be a resident of this state or exempt from paying nonresident tuition; the student files financial aid forms; and the student makes timely application or applications for publicly funded student financial aid. This summary is based on the current amended version of the bill which was February 9, 2012.

Location: Passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Committee on Education.
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: Passed the Assembly and the Senate Committee on Education.
Position: Support

SB 1289 (Corbett) Private Student Loans
Analysis/Summary: Senate Bill 1289 requires public and private postsecondary educational institutions, except the community colleges, to make disclosures regarding private student loans in financial aid materials and in private loan applications provided, or made available to students.

Location: Passed the Senate and the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

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. The bill encourages charitable giving to the Cal Grant program through the 65% tax credit, which would be the most generous tax credit the state has ever allowed, and leverages federal tax deductions for 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: Passed the Senate and will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

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 $150,000. 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: The purpose of this bill is to increase the household income threshold to establish Cal Grant eligibility, and increase the applicant pool to include middle income families. 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). Senate Bill 1356 would create significant tax credits that incentivize charitable giving to the Cal Grant program. It’s estimated that the Higher Education Investment Tax Credit Fund would generate over $300 million each year, and allow the California Student Aid Commission to increase the eligibility for Cal Grants to middle-income Californians for at least three years.

Location: Passed the Senate and will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.

Student Success and Transfer

AB 2001 (Bonilla) Pupil Assessment
Analysis/Summary: AB 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 & 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.

Comments: This bill is sponsored by the Association of CA School Administrators (ACSA). It adds requirements to the provisions of Assemblymember Brownley’s AB 250 of last year which established a process for the implementation of the common core academic content standards and was chaptered into law. The intent is to improve college readiness for students entering community colleges and other systems of higher education from the state’s K-12 system.

Location: AB 2001 passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 2471 (Lara) Postsecondary Education: E-Textbooks
Analysis/Summary: AB 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.)

Comments: The CCCCO has proposed that the author’s office remove the mandate that the segments develop the policies and simply require that the publishers adhere to the bill’s provisions. The author’s office is reviewing those amendments.

Location: AB 2471 passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee and but 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: Passed out of Assembly Higher Education Committee and will be heard in Assembly Appropriations.

Position: Support
SB 1052 (Steinberg) California Open Education Resources Council
Analysis/Summary: SB 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), and also specifies that the bill would only take effect if sufficient funding is provided.

Comments: Findings and declaration language suggests a $25 million state led investment for this purpose, based on a $500,000 ball-park estimate for the development of each textbook.

Location: SB 1052 will be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee
Position: Support

SB 1053 (Steinberg) California Digital Open Source Library
Analysis/Summary: SB 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 CSU in coordination with CCCCO and UC. 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: SB 1053 will be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.
Position: Support

SB 1062 (Liu) California Community Colleges: Board of Governors
Analysis/Summary: SB 1062 amends the Education Code to 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 Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
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: SB 1316 passed the Senate and the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and is on the Assembly floor.
SB 1328 (De Leon) Postsecondary Education Textbooks
Analysis/Summary: SB 1328 would require a publisher to provide information about textbooks, including the ISBN number, in a specified order. The intent is to improve access to textbook information and make it easier for faculty and students to compare prices.

Comments: This bill was developed with technical assistance from the 20 Million Minds Foundation.

Location: SB 1328 passed the Senate and will be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.
Position: Support

SB 1456 (Lowenthal) Student Success Act of 2012
Analysis/Summary: SB 1456 is the “centerpiece” legislation resulting from the 2011 Student Success Task Force recommendations and is sponsored by the Board of Governors. 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 would also require participating campuses to establish a campus student success scorecard and use a common assessment system if they are currently using assessments. Finally, the bill specified that the BOG establish minimum satisfactory academic standards to retain eligibility for BOG Fee Waivers. Amendments to the bill included legislative findings and declarations language that provides context for the bill and reaffirms the system’s commitment to pursue new funds that support student success services, instructional faculty, counselors and categorical programs. The amendments also made several technical changes and clarified various provisions in the bill.

Location: Passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.
Position: Sponsor/Support

SB 1539 (Corbett) Postsecondary Education Textbooks
Analysis/Summary: SB 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. Recent amendments expand 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: Passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee and will be sent to the Assembly Floor.
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, and these requirements would affect community colleges who offer radiologic
technology programs for medical laboratory technicians, clinical laboratory scientists, radiologic technologists, nuclear medicine technologists, certified nurse assistants, certified home health aides, certified hemodialysis technicians, and nursing home administrators.

Comments: AB 1976 addresses concerns raised by veterans in the joint informational hearing with the Assembly Higher Education and Assembly Veterans Committee on services to veterans in higher education. Concerns have been raised by community college and CSU representatives on the requirements that may be placed on institutions offering the affected programs.

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. To maintain priority, AB 2133 requires the student to comply with requirements in Section 78212(a) of the Education Code, which may be amended by SB 1456 (Lowenthal) the primary bill to support the SSTF. The GI Bill also requires an education plan and this requirement would apply if a student veteran does not access their GI Bill, or has used up their education benefit in the past and is returning to college. 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 Veterans Committee and will be heard in the Senate Education Committee.

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. 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 (ACE) or other appropriate body.

Comments: The Chancellor’s Office is providing 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. AB 2462 is the
vehicle that will address the concerns about awarding college credit for academic instruction in the military expressed in the various bills.

**Location:** AB 2462 passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Education Committee.  
**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 for the length of time he or she lives in this state after being discharged up to 2 years as long as the student files an affidavit with the community college stating that he or she intends to establish residency in California

**Comments:** AB 2478 is similar to AB 2250, but it does not place requirements on the California State University, or waive nonresident fees for a spouse of a student veteran. It was amended in the Assembly Appropriations Committee to provide a waiver of nonresident fees from four years to two years after separation.

**Location:** AB 2478 passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Education Committee.  
**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 implement a career technical education program that takes into account experiential learning toward earning college course credit, certificates or an associate degree. Using criteria specified in the bill, the Chancellor’s Office may select up to five colleges to participate. The participating colleges may use the American Council on Education (ACE) guidelines and other existing resources. Participating colleges are authorized to approve credit courses in accordance with Education Code Section 70901. This code section authorizes local districts to approve Stand Alone Credit Courses, and was extended by AB 1029 (Lara) in 2011, a Board of Governors sponsored bill, through January 1, 2014. Colleges participating in the pilot program will maintain authority for Stand Alone Credit Course approval for the duration of the pilot, which terminates on January 1, 2021.

**Comments:** AB 2534 was amended June 20, 2012, and is a “gut-and-amend.”

**Location:** AB 2534 will be heard in the Senate Education Committee.

**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 credit recommendations to give veterans academic credit for instruction in the military. The goal of ACR 159 is to increase the number of veterans graduating from college.

**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 will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.