



February 20, 2014

OVERVIEW

The State Legislature reconvened on January 6, 2014, to start the second year of the two-year session and began with hearings for bills introduced in 2013 that are still eligible to pass in 2014. A few of these bills moved forward, but the vast majority of the bills we will be monitoring this year will be introduced by the bill introduction deadline on February 21, 2014. As we approach this date, we find that there are several significant policy issues that will be addressed in legislation, but some of the language in these bills is still placeholder statute. Bills with placeholder language are known as “spot” bills. Some of these spot bills may be used for a different purpose than the current subject of the bill. Other concepts for bills have been introduced in press releases but have not been assigned bill numbers and the language is not yet available to the public. While we are already tracking dozens of new measures, but we expect a significant increase in the number of bills introduced by the deadline this Friday.

Brief summaries are provided below for selected measures in our top level, Tier 1. Please also find the attached legislative matrix, which is in priority order. For details and copies of any bill, please contact the Government Relations division of the Chancellor’s Office or visit the Legislative Counsel’s website at: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- **AB 1451 (Holden) Concurrent Enrollment.** Current language in AB 1451 is from prior legislation to expand concurrent enrollment. AB 1451 is in the process of being amended to align the bill with the legislative program proposal approved by the Board of Governors.
 - **Position:** Sponsor/Support
- **AB 1540 (Hagman) Enrollment in Secondary School and Community College (Concurrent Enrollment).** AB 1540 authorizes the governing board of a school district to allow a student recommended by community college dean of a computer science department or other appropriate community college career computer science administrator, to attend a community college during any session or term and to undertake one or more courses of computer science offered at the community college.
- **SB 850 (Block) Community College Districts: Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.** SB 850 authorizes the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to allow the establishment of one baccalaureate degree pilot program per campus per district. SB 850 states that the baccalaureate degree pilot program shall consist of a limited number of campuses.

ADULT EDUCATION

- **SB 897 (Steinberg) Educational Competitive Grant Programs: Adult Education.** SB 897 requires any competitive grant program administered by the State Department of Education to consider whether the grant recipient shall be required to include specified social studies standards in the program funded by the grant. Relates to grants for specialists under the State Career Pathways Trust. SB 897 requires classes and courses for immigrants to include basic instruction in American government and civics that meets specified standards.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- **SB 923 (Pavley) Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Act.** SB 923 enacts the Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Act to award a competitive grants to school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and community college campuses to promote apprenticeships, pre apprenticeships, and career pathways among local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, and businesses of importance to local economics.

FACULTY

- **ACR 95 (Gomez) California Community Colleges: Part-Time Faculty.** ACR 95 expresses the intent of the Legislature that community college districts not reduce the hours of part-time faculty for the purpose of avoiding implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

FISCAL ISSUES, FUNDING, ETC.

- **AB 1271 (Bonta) Inmate Education.** AB 1271 (Bonta) waives open course requirements for community college courses offered in state correctional facilities and allows attendance hours generated by credit courses at all correctional facilities to be funded at the full credit rate instead of the noncredit rate. AB 1271 eliminates a disincentive for community colleges to provide credit courses to inmates of correctional institutions.
 - **Position:** Support
- **SB 965 (Leno) San Francisco Community College District: Funding.** SB 965 requires the Board of Governors to provide the San Francisco Community College District with revenues for the 2014-15 fiscal year to the 2017-18 fiscal year, if the community college district or a campus of the community college district is in imminent jeopardy of losing its accreditation and the board of governors has appointed a special trustee to manage the community college district.

GOVERNANCE

- **AB 1348 (Pérez, J) Postsecondary education: California Higher Education Authority.** Although the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) was defunded by the Budget Act of 2011, statutes remain. AB 1348 would repeal statutes establishing the duties of CPEC and establish the California Higher Education Authority, as the replacement for CPEC. The author's office is in the process of reviewing possible amendments and changes to the concepts described in the bill.
- **AB 1557 (Holden) Board of Governors.** AB 1557 adds members to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, including one voting student member who is a member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States and one voting member who is a member or former of the Armed Forces of the United States who has demonstrated expertise and leadership in the field of veterans' affairs.
- **AB 1942 (Bonta) Community Colleges: Accreditation.** AB 1942 requires the Board of Governors to adopt minimum conditions that meet specified requirements and in developing these conditions the Board seeks and considers input from community college districts and related institutions, students, and academic and nonacademic employees. AB 1942 authorizes the governing board of a community college district to designate a federally recognized accrediting agency for community colleges within its jurisdiction. The bill requires the accrediting agency to base its accreditation decision on compliance with the minimum conditions specified by the Board of Governors. AB 1942 also requires the selected accrediting agency to comply with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and California Public Records Act.

- **SB 1068 (Beall) Board of Governors of the California Community College.** Current language in SB 1068 is "spot"/placeholder statute. According to the author's office, SB 1068 will be amended to address the following concepts:
 - Accrediting agencies wishing to implement new policies and/or procedures that have state costs must first seek approval by the State Legislature.
 - Campus evaluation reports conducted during the accreditation process would be subject to the Public Records Act.
 - Accrediting agencies would be prohibited from charging costs, such as attorney fees, that are unrelated to the accreditation process.
 - Provide community colleges an option to choose any community college or 4-year accrediting agency approved by the US Department of Education.
- **SB 1024 (Gaines, T) Community Colleges: Board of Governors.** Current language is "spot"/placeholder statute.

NURSING

- **AB 548 (Salas) Nursing Programs: Community Colleges.** This bill would delete the sunset provision in Education Code Section 78261.5 of January 1, 2016. Originally introduced by AB 1559 (Berryhill) in 2007, Section 78261.5 authorizes a set of criteria added to the screening process for applying to nursing programs. The reasoning for the multicriteria addition was to allow for a more diverse field of candidates while improving the passing rate for the nursing licensing exam and improving the chances for successful completion in community college nursing programs.
 - Status: AB 548 passed the Assembly and was assigned to the Senate Education Committee.

STUDENT SERVICES

- **SB 967 (De Leon) Student Safety: Sexual Assault.** SB 967 requires the governing boards of each community college district, the Trustees of the California State University, the Regents of the University of California to adopt policies concerning campus sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, including an affirmative consent standard in the determination of whether consent was given by a complainant. Requires these boards to adopt certain sexual assault policies and protocols.

TUITION, FEES, FINANCIAL AID

- **AB 330 (Chau) Student Financial Aid: Disclosures.** AB 330 requires postsecondary education institutions participating in the state's Cal Grant Program to report their average student loan debt of graduates to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). The CSAC is required to post this data on its Internet Web site in a searchable database. The bill specifically calls for CSAC to provide a glossary on its Internet Website explaining the meanings of various financial aid terms to include private student loan, federal direct loan, grant, and scholarship. For-profit institutions that are required by federal law to provide their students with a School Performance Fact Sheet are also required to include current information about the average student debt of its graduates on their Fact Sheet.
 - Status: AB 330 passed the Assembly and was assigned to the Senate Education Committee and the Committee on Business, Professions And Economic Development.
- **AB 1456 (Jones-Sawyer) Tuition Fees Pilot Program.** AB 1456 requires the Student Aid Commission, the Trustees of the California State University, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and requests the Regents of the University of California to

conduct a study of the effects of enacting a Pay it Forward, Pay it Back Pilot Program to replace the current system of charging students upfront tuition and fees, including for room and board, for enrollment at public institutions of higher education.

- **AB 1538 (Eggman) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program.** AB 1538 authorizes the Student Aid Commission to deem a qualifying institution eligible for Cal Grant awards even though the default rate exceeds the statutory threshold for Cal Grant eligibility, provided that the institution satisfies specified conditions.
- **SB 174 (De Leon) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program.** SB 174 requires the Treasurer to certify the amount of money available in an academic year from the College Access Tax Credit Fund for distribution, and provide that an amount determined by the Student Aid Commission would be available for expenditure, upon appropriation to the Commission from the Fund, for distribution to students to supplement Cal Grant B access cost awards to bring those student's total annual awards for access costs to not more than a specified total and to defray administrative costs.
 - Status: SB 174 passed the Senate and was sent to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.
- **SB 798 (De Leon) Income Taxes: Credit to Education Funds.** Allows a credit under the Personal Income Tax and Corporation Tax laws that is equal to a certain percentage of a contribution to the College Access Tax Credit Fund that is established under this bill, for specified education purposes. Specifies the aggregate amount of the credit for each calendar year. Requires the State Educational Facilities Authority to perform certain duties with regard to allocating and certifying the tax credits.
 - Status: SB 798 passed the Senate and was sent to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education.
- **SB 845 (Correa) Electronic Disbursements of Student Financial Aid.** SB 845 requires the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the Trustees of the California State University, and requests the Regents of the University of California and each governing body of an accredited private postsecondary educational institution, to develop model contracts that would govern at each campus within their respective systems the disbursement of a financial aid award, scholarship, campus-based aid award, or school refund on a debit, prepaid, or preloaded card.
- **SB 1028 (Jackson) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant C Awards.** SB 1028 requires the number of awards made each year to be at least the same number of awards made for the 2000-01 fiscal year and specifies the amount of the awards. SB 1028 reserves certain awards for the long-term unemployed and prioritizes occupational training programs and industry clusters.

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