

2019 Legislative Liaison Report Paulette Bell

Legislative Bill Cycle

The Legislative Cycle – Part 1

- January– February
 - A bill is introduced by member of Senate (numbered as SB) or Assembly (numbered as AB).
- March – May
 - Amendments – revisions, improvements
 - Committees hearings
 - Education, Appropriations (fiscal)
- Last week of May
 - Bills that make it, go to the floor of the house for vote

The Legislative Cycle – Part 2

- June – August
 - Same process is repeated in other house
- September
 - Concurrence
 - If both houses pass the bill then it moves onto the Governor's desk
- Governor's Desk
 - Veto – reject the bill
 - Sign – make the bill into law
 - House override – 2/3 vote of both houses
- State Proposition
 - 50% of electorate change law or veto law

ASCCC Bill Watch – This Cycle

- AB 2 (Santiago) College Promise
 - Existing law establishes the California College Promise, under the administration of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, to provide funding, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to each community college meeting prescribed requirements, including using evidence-based assessment and placement practices at the community college. Existing law authorizes a community college to use that funding to accomplish specified policy goals and to waive some or all of the fees for one academic year for certain first-time students who are enrolled in 12 or more semester units or the equivalent at the college and complete and submit either a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a California Dream Act application. This bill would require that the use of evidence-based assessment and placement practices at the community colleges for participation in the California College Promise be consistent with certain existing requirements for assessments. This bill would authorize a community college to use California College Promise funding to waive fees for 2 academic years, and instead of specifying eligibility for first-time students, the bill would make ineligible for the fee waiver a community college student who has previously earned a degree or certificate from a postsecondary educational institution.
- AB 30 (Holden) Dual Enrollment
 - Dual enrollment can leverage partnerships between high school and community colleges to create a pathway from high school to college. Once a partnership is formed, high school students are able to complete college courses while still attending high school. This allows high school students to take courses in a specific area of career interest and gives them a head start to get a job, whether they choose career and technical education courses or college transfer classes in general education. (Concern: Who will teach the classes?)

- **AB 130 (Low) CPEC Reboot & SB 3 (Allen) CPEC Reboot**
 - Would create the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability, which would, among other functions, “periodically provide independent oversight on the public postsecondary segments’ and individual campus-based programs and initiatives and cross-segmental and interagency programs and initiatives in areas that include, but are not necessarily limited to, graduation rates, affordability, transfer, financial aid, assessment and placement, remediation, degree and certificate completion, adult education, workforce coordination, student transition into the workforce, effectiveness, and alignment with state goals and performance measures in higher education,” thus potentially providing support for California Higher Education that has been needed since the defunding of CPEC; and the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability would be required by law to, “In consultation with the public postsecondary segments, set performance targets for enrollment and degree and certificate completion statewide and by region” and “In consultation with the public postsecondary segments and workforce and development agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, periodically measure the supply and demand of jobs in fields of study statewide and by region” and therefore the functionality and benefits of the office would be greatly enhanced if the advisory board were to include direct representation from the segments of public higher education. (Provisionally supported by ASCCC)
- **AB 302 (Berman) Homeless Student Parking**
 - Requires a community college campus that has parking facilities on campus to grant overnight access to those facilities, on or before July 1, 2020, to any homeless student who is enrolled in coursework, has paid any enrollment fees that have not been waived, and is in good standing with the community college for the purpose of sleeping in the student’s vehicle overnight. The bill would require the governing board of the community college district to determine a plan of action to implement this requirement. (Pro: sends strong message; stop gap for students/Con: liability and other unintended consequences)
- **SB 291 (Leyva) Financial Aid**
 - The bill would establish the California Community College Student Financial Aid Program, to provide need-based grant awards to eligible community college students who attend a California community college voluntarily designated by its district governing board to participate in the program, as specified. Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, the bill specifies that the program shall be administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and implemented by the eligible California community colleges. (Concern about community college students accruing debt so early in their education)
- **SB 462 (Stern) Forestland Restoration Program**
 - This bill establish a model curriculum for a forestland restoration workforce program that could be offered at campuses of the California Community Colleges. The bill would require the chancellor’s office to distribute the model curriculum to community college districts no later than January 1, 2021, with the goal of enabling interested community college districts to offer the course to students beginning with the 2021–22 academic year. Also provides that certified graduates of the forestland restoration workforce course would be eligible to matriculate into the prescribed fire teams of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or into work with other compatible state and federal forest restoration efforts and related apprenticeship programs, as specified. The bill would require the chancellor’s office, working in collaboration with the California Fire Science Consortium, to provide community college districts interested in offering the forestland restoration workforce course with information about fire advisors from the consortium who are qualified, willing, and available to be course instructors or to consult with those instructors. (Already several forestland programs throughout the state)

FACCC Bill Watch

- **AB 897 (Medina) Community colleges: part-time employees**
 - Existing law requires community colleges, as a condition of receiving funding allocated for the Student Success and Support Program, to negotiate in good faith with the exclusive representatives for part-time, temporary faculty, the terms of reemployment preference for part-time faculty assignments based on minimum standards up to the range of 60% to 67% of a full-time equivalent load. This bill would instead require that negotiation on reemployment preference for part-time, temporary faculty assignments be based on the minimum standards not exceeding 80% to 85%, and would prohibit the district from restricting the terms of the negotiated agreement to less than that range, unless explicitly agreed upon by an individual part-time, temporary faculty member and the district. (Concerns around hiring of F/T faculty and how it would affect bargaining unit contracts)

- **AB 463 (Cervantes) Community colleges: faculty members: loan forgiveness**
 - This bill would require the chancellor's office to develop and provide to community college districts specified materials designed to increase awareness of the federal [Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program](#) among community college faculty members. The bill would require the governing board of a community college district to annually provide the materials to those faculty members. The bill would require a community college district to annually provide a faculty member who is enrolled in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program with notice of renewal and a copy of the employment certification form required to be completed for purposes of the program, with the employer portion of the form already completed. The bill would require a community college district to make specified determinations relating to the work completed by faculty members for purposes of the program.
- **AB 706 (Low) Community colleges: academic employees**
 - Existing law requires that the total amount of leave of absence for illness or injury to which an academic employee of a community college district is entitled be transferred with the employee to another district, if the employee accepts employment with, or is elected to, another district within 3 school years after the school year in which the employment with the first district is terminated, or within any greater period during which the employee's reemployment rights are protected under a local bargaining agreement then in effect in the first district. This bill would eliminate limits on the time during which an employee of one school year or more is entitled to transfer the employee's accrued leave.
- **AB 1689 (McCarty) College Mental Health Services Program**
 - The bill would require the governing boards, as defined, to create a grant program for public community college, college, and university campuses for the purpose of establishing or improving access to mental health services on those campuses, as specified. The bill would require campuses that have been awarded grants under these provisions to report annually on the use of those grant funds and to post that information on their internet websites. The bill would also require each governing body to submit a report to the Legislature evaluating the impact of the program, as specified. The bill would require that evaluation to be conducted by a public or private research university or institute in this state and would require the Department of Finance to assist the governing bodies in issuing a request for proposal for that contract.
- **SJR 3 (Wilk) Social Security Status: 4/4/2019-Set for hearing April 24**
 - This measure would request the Congress of the United States to enact, and the President to sign, legislation that would repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act.

[Link to FACCC Website for more Legislation](#)