



July 15, 2010

State Legislative Update

Overview

The Legislature completed its policy committee hearings in both houses on July 2 and broke for summer recess. While the Legislature normally would take a one-month summer recess, this year the members have been directed to “return to their districts to work,” with the caveat that they return to the Capitol within 24 hours, if called back to vote on the state budget. Otherwise, the Legislators are not due back until August 2.

Although the budget crisis has affected virtually all work in the Capitol, Legislators have focused significant attention on reform oriented bills that address key issues such as transfer, financial aid and improving student success.

Senate bill 1440 (Padilla) is one of the most significant higher education reform measures to move through the Legislature this year. This bill, which is co-sponsored by the California Community College Board of Governors, the California State University, the California Community College and CSU student associations and the Campaign for College Opportunity, dramatically streamlines and simplifies the process for community college students transferring to CSU. The bill guarantees CSU transfer to all community college students who complete 60 transferable units and receive a designated Associate’s degree in the student’s field of study. The bill, which has 37 coauthors from both sides of the aisle, has garnered significant legislative support and media attention in California and around the country. The bill is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee either the first or second week of August.

Access to financial aid is another issue of major interest to state policy makers, particularly in light of recent news articles claiming that California Community College students leave millions of dollars in federal financial aid on the table. **Assembly bill 1997 (Portantino)** would implement a voluntary pilot project at up to 10 community colleges to identify strategies and best practices that increase student participation in both state and federal financial aid programs. Initially, the bill mandated colleges to require students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for all financial aid, including the BOG fee waiver. This version of the bill would have required colleges to make significant modifications to campus financial aid operations, adding new administrative costs and narrowly focusing on BOG fee waiver students. After consulting with financial aid officers throughout the field, the Chancellor’s Office worked with the author in amending the legislation to broaden the scope to increase state and federal financial aid participation for all students, not just students who receive BOG fee waivers. The Chancellor’s Office now supports the bill.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE

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There has been growing attention in the Legislature to improve student success and completion within the community colleges. Several bills and budget bill language were proposed this year to address this issue. Many of the efforts, however, have focused on prescribing narrowly crafted approaches to addressing a highly complex issue that has become even more challenging to address given recent budget cuts. Most notable of these bills is **SB 1143 (Liu)**. As initially introduced, **SB 1143** would have required a performance-based funding model that would fund college full time equivalent students based on the average of completion rates in the 3rd week census date and the end of the course. This funding model would have severely reduced resources to the colleges and would have many unintended consequences for colleges that serve the most disadvantaged and at-risk students. After a strong advocacy effort to oppose the bill, the legislation was amended to direct the Community College Board of Governors to adopt a plan for promoting and improving student success and to convene a task force for one year to examine best practices and models throughout the nation for gauging, promoting and improving student success within the community colleges. The BOG is required to report its findings prior to adopting the plan to increase student success. The Chancellor's Office and many community college stakeholders now support this measure and have argued that related proposals, such as one included in budget bill language, are duplicative and no longer necessary.

The Legislature is also considering legislation to put a \$6.1 billion education bond on the November 2010 statewide ballot. **AB 220 (Brownley)**, the Kindergarten-University Facilities Bond Act of 2010, would provide \$4.6 billion to K-12, \$800 million to the California Community Colleges and \$350 million each to the UC and the CSU. Overall bond discussions are still fluid and will ultimately determine which bond measures make it on the November ballot. The community colleges continue to advocate strongly for a new education bond and an increased share of the bond funds that are directed to community colleges. Currently, the community colleges have a \$1.6 billion funding backlog for critical facilities needs. The bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee the first or second week in August.

Conference Committee Budget

The Budget Conference Committee (Committee) met on July 7, and addressed two remaining community colleges item: 1) budget bill language to study a performance-based funding formula for basic skills, and 2) a redistribution of financial aid administration dollars based on the number of students who receive Pell Grants.

With regard to the basic skills language, the Committee voted to reopen the item after much discussion and some confusion about the need for the language. The chair and others argued that this language was duplicative of the language in SB 1143, while others argued to retain the budget bill language as a back-up to SB 1143. The Chancellor's Office and other community college stakeholders support the more comprehensive approach to addressing student success contained in SB 1143 over the budget bill language.

The Budget Conference Committee rejected the Senate proposal to revise how financial aid administration dollars would be distributed among the colleges. In rejecting this proposal, Senator Ducheny raised concerns that the language would result in punishing those districts that have low participation rates for Pell Grant awards, which would put further strain on districts by reducing funds for financial aid counseling services.

Several other important bills are highlighted in this report that deal with a variety of issues that affect the community colleges. Attached, you also will find the legislative tracking matrix, which provides a comprehensive list of all community college bills monitored by the Chancellor's Office. The bills are organized as Tier 1 or Tier 2 bills. Tier 1 bills are high priority measures on which the Chancellor's Office has taken a position. Tier 2 bills significant to the community colleges, but the Chancellor's Office has not yet taken a formal position.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BILLS OF INTEREST *(Organized by Issue)*

COORDINATION AND EFFICIENCY

AB 1713 (Furutani) California Community Colleges: Reporting Requirements (Sponsor)

Analysis/Summary: This bill modifies several statutorily required reports by the Chancellor's Office. A few obsolete reports are deleted and others are consolidated.

Comments: This bill creates greater efficiency for the Chancellor's Office and is sponsored by the Board of Governors.

Location: AB 1713 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee on consent. It will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Sponsor/Support

CTE/GREEN JOBS/ENERGY/JOBS

AB 35 (Furutani) Workforce Development

Analysis/Summary: This bill requires the California Workforce Investment Board, Chancellor's Office, and Board of Governors to develop a strategic plan for connecting education and workforce development efforts in cooperation with the State Board of Education and representatives from education, business, and labor organizations. The bill requires that recommendations be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on or before July 1, 2011.

Location: The Senate Education Committee passed AB 35 on June 23, 2010. It will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

AB 2523 (Eng) Apprenticeship: Electricians

Analysis/Summary: AB 2523 would permit state-approved apprenticeship programs to offer electrical training under their own general control without the oversight and curriculum approval of the State Department of Education (SDE), the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (BOG), or the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education. Recent amendments have been taken that clarify instruction for trainees and include a statement that the approved apprenticeship training programs as described, are intended to supplement, not supplant educational training leading to a degree. Given these amendments, community college stakeholders have removed their opposition.

Under current law, electrician training programs must be approved by a state certification curriculum committee, which consists of a representative from the SDE, BOG, and the Division of Apprenticeship Standards.

Comments: The sponsor (the Western Electrical Contractors Association) argues that the additional supervision of the state-approved apprenticeship training programs is unnecessary and increases the costs of operation as the programs have already been reviewed and approved as providing quality training. AB 2523 was opposed by the Los Angeles College Faculty Guild, Los Angeles Community College District and the Los Rios Community College District. The concern was that AB 2523 would remove important oversight requirements and protections for students training to be certified electricians.

Location: The Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee passed AB 2523 on June 23, 2010. It will next be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Due to the recent amendments we have removed our opposition.

SB 675 (Steinberg) Energy Job Training

Analysis/Summary: SB 675 would enact the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention Act of 2010 and would create the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Technical Education and Dropout Prevention Fund (fund) to award grants to fund construction and enhancement projects associated with educating and training individuals in preparation for jobs in clean technology industries. SB 675 would also create the Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention Council comprised of nine members including the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

Location: SB 675 passed the Senate and the Assembly Natural Resources and Assembly Education Committees and will next be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 1332 (Dutton) Radiologic Technology

Analysis/Summary: SB 1332 would require the Department of Public Health (DPH) to approve schools that meet the Joint Review Committee of Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) standards. The bill also requires the department to adopt the standards through a specified process before approving schools. Since 1996, JRCERT standards have been accepted in lieu of the California Department of Public Health's Title 17 regulations that were established in 1985. SB 1332 would preclude DPH from suddenly enforcing outdated regulations and use the JRCERT accreditation process utilized by the state over the past 14 years, rather than the 1985 regulations.

Comments: Title 17 regulations for Radiologic Technology Programs are widely considered to be outdated and not reflective of current needs. CSU and community college program directors state that compliance with the outdated Title 17 regulations could put their national certification in jeopardy. Even though Title 17 regulations are outdated, DPH has the authority to enforce these regulations. DPH attempted to enforce these regulations in 2007 and numerous college programs as well as clinical placement facilities were put on notice that their programs were deemed out of compliance. This bill clarifies that colleges who meet JRCERT standards are in compliance with the law.

Location: SB 1332 passed the Senate unanimously and the Assembly Health Committee on consent, with a recommendation for consent in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

FINANCE/FUNDING/FACILITIES

AB 220 (Brownley) Kindergarten-University Facilities Bond Act of 2010

Analysis/Summary: AB 220 authorizes the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2010 to provide for the issuance of \$6.1 billion in general obligation bonds for construction and modernization of education facilities (to become effective only if approved by voters), and requires its submission to voters at the November 2, 2010, statewide general election. If approved, the community college share of the bond revenues would be \$800 million.

Comments: In the 2006 bond measure, the ratio between K-12 and the community colleges was two to one, and in AB 220, it is three to one. This is in contrast to the fact that K-12 districts are decreasing enrollments while community college enrollments are surging. Our system has identified \$1.6 billion in project proposals that could be implemented but have been languishing because we did not have a state bond measure in 2008. The Chancellor's Office supports AB 220, but continues to advocate for increasing the community college share from \$800 million to \$1.6 billion to adequately address our facilities backlog.

Location: AB 220 passed the Senate Education Committee on June 30, 2010 and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 1143 (Liu) Community College Funding

Analysis/Summary: SB 1143 has been amended to direct the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (BOG) to convene a task force to examine best practices and models throughout the nation for gauging, promoting and improving student success within California's Community Colleges. The BOG is required to report to the Legislature no later than June 1, 2012 on its proposed plan to improve student success and completion.

Location: This bill passed both the Senate Education Committee and Appropriations Committee, but failed passage on the first vote on the Senate floor. The bill was granted reconsideration and gained support under the condition that the author work collaboratively with the community colleges. The bill passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee and was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 1473 (Wyland) School Facilities Bond Proceeds: Performance Audits

Analysis/Summary: SB 1473 would mandate that all Proposition 39 mandatory performance and financial audits conform to the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS). GAGAS standards are promulgated under the leadership of the Comptroller General of the United States, who heads the U.S. General Accounting Office.

Comments: The Performance Audit requirement in the Constitution for Prop 39 local bonds does not specify the type of performance audit standard that can be used. In GAGAS performance audits in law, quite a few K-14 districts are not using consistent standards in conducting performance audits, a practice that had raised questions about appropriate use of funds.

Location: This bill passed the Assembly and will now be sent to the Senate for a vote of concurrence with the amendments made in the Assembly.

Position: Support

NURSING

AB 1703 (Knight) Nursing: State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans for Education

Analysis/Summary: The current State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans for Education (SNAPLE) program allows a registered nurse (RN) that works in a state-operated facility (including a prison, psychiatric hospital, or veteran's home) to receive repayment of loans, up to \$20,000 over a four-year consecutive period. The program sunsets on July 1, 2012. This bill would extend the loan assumption program for an RN that completes five or more years of qualifying clinical registered nursing service at a state-operated veteran's home. The bill offers an additional loan assumption of \$5,000 per year for a nurse working in a veteran's home.

Location: AB 1703 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

AB 2344 (Nielsen) Nursing: Approved Schools

Analysis/Summary: Existing law related to the Board of Registered Nursing role in approving nursing programs, specifies that the term "institution of higher education" includes community colleges offering an associate degree. AB 2344 redefines "institution of higher education" for the purposes of approving schools of nursing to include community colleges and private postsecondary institutions offering an associate of arts or an associate of science degree. This bill also clarifies that a nursing school that is not an "institution of higher education" may affiliate with an institution of higher education offering either an associate of arts or an associate of science degree to individuals who graduate from the nursing school.

Comments: This bill is sponsored by Cambridge Junior College, a for-profit private vocational college that was denied approval of their Associate of Science degree in Nursing by the Board of Registered Nursing. The denial was issued to Cambridge College for their Associate of Science degree in Nursing because existing law does not include the associate of science degree within the purview of the Board of Registered Nursing, only the Associate of Arts degree in Nursing appears in existing law.

Location: AB 2344 passed the Assembly and the Senate Business and Profession Committee and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

AB 2385 (J. Perez) Community Colleges: Accelerated Nursing and Allied Health Care Pilot Program

Analysis/Summary: This bill establishes a pilot program for Innovative Nursing and Allied Health Care Profession Education at California Community Colleges. AB 2385 places this new program under the direction of the California Community College Chancellor's Office, which may establish the pilot program at up to five campuses throughout the state. Qualifying programs must provide certified training, include high quality curriculum and have the ability to expand programs as needed. The pilot program would facilitate the development of innovative models to expand the state's capacity to prepare a

qualified health care workforce. The bill requires the Chancellor's Office to collect data on the pilot programs to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs for a report to the Legislature.

Comments: The current version of the bill no longer includes language concerning student fees, online coursework, and flexible scheduling.

Location: AB 2385 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee and will be heard in Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

OTHER

AB 1702 (Swanson) California Community Colleges: Inmate Education Programs

Analysis/Summary: This bill would waive the open course provisions for a governing board of a community college district that provides classes for inmates. For purposes of apportionment, this bill would prohibit a district from claiming a class if the district has received full compensation for its direct education costs for the conduct of the class. Current law prohibits community colleges from claiming state funding for classes that are not open to the public; however, an exemption is allowed for inmate education in city, county, and federal correctional facilities. This exemption does include community college classes in state correctional facilities.

Comments: Eliminating the open course provisions for inmate education would remove the disincentive for districts to provide classes to inmates. This bill is similar to SB 413 (Scott) from 2008 that the Chancellor's Office supported, but was vetoed by the Governor.

Location: AB 1702 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee and will be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

AB 1901 (Ruskin): Postsecondary Education: Master Plan for Higher Education

Analysis/Summary: This bill adds the report of the Joint Committee for the Master Plan for Higher Education. The report, "Appreciating Our Past, Ensuring Our Future: A Public Agenda for Public Higher Education in California," provides an overview of higher education policy framework, universal access to higher education, affordability of higher education, fiscal and programmatic accountability of higher education, coordination and articulation of higher education, and financing of higher education.

Location: AB 1901 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee passed on June 30, 2010 and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

SB 82 (Hancock) Community Colleges: Parking and Transportation Fees

Analysis/Summary: This bill would increase the limits on the parking services fee. Increases in parking and transportation fees will be determined by the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services published by the United States Department of Commerce. The bill would also repeal the provisions that prohibit a governing board from entering into, or extending a contract for, transportation services provided by a common carrier or municipally owned transit system unless approved by a vote of the students.

Comment: This bill follows prior legislation for specified districts and last year's AB 774 (Cook) that authorizes all districts to charge transportation fees to students and employees if approved by a majority of students and employees at the district. SB 82 removes the limit on fees. Several districts have used the current statute to provide mass transit services.

Location: SB 82 passed the Assembly Higher Education Committee on June 22, 2010 and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

SB 330 (Yee) Public Records: State Agency: Auxiliary Organizations

Analysis/Summary: SB 330 adds CCC, CSU, and UC foundations to the Public Records Act. Donors to the foundations can request anonymity if their donation is \$500 or less.

Comments: Recent amendments exempt specified information, such as fundraising strategy and research on potential donors from the California Public Records Act. Language also has been removed that defined the Foundation for the California Community Colleges, the CSU Foundations, and University of California Foundations as a "state agency" for the purposes of the California Public Records Act.

Location: SB 330 passed the Senate, the Assembly Government Organization, and Assembly Higher Education Committees and will now heard on the Assembly floor.

Position: The recent amendments addressed our concerns and we are no longer in opposition.

STUDENT FEES/AFFORDABILITY

AB 1997 (Portantino) California Community Colleges: Student Financial Aid Programs

Analysis/Summary: AB 1997 requires the California Community College Chancellor's Office to implement a voluntary pilot program at up to 10 community colleges to identify strategies and best practices that increase student participation in both state and federal financial aid programs. The Chancellor's Office is required to submit a report to the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) by January 10, 2013 regarding strategies and techniques used at the pilot sites. The LAO is then required to issue a report to the Legislature that includes recommendations for statewide expansion of the pilot, a statistical analysis of financial aid applications and awards before and after the pilot, and a summary of the major strategies and techniques employed by participating campuses.

Location: This bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 2, 2010.

Position: Support

AB 2086 (Coto) Public Postsecondary Education: Federal Assistance: Publication of Professional Licensure Examination Passage Rates

Analysis/Summary: AB 2086 would require postsecondary institutions to provide information regarding where the public may access license examination passage rates for the most recently available year, if that data is electronically available through an Internet website of a state licensing or regulatory agency. Postsecondary institutions are permitted to place an Internet website address with the required data on the institution's enrollment, application, and/or program information materials. Responsibility for certification of compliance rests with the postsecondary institution.

Comments: The purpose of this bill is to provide students, parents, taxpayers, policymakers, and employers with information about whether the higher education institutions and programs they attend, support, and/or finance are effective in terms of student learning and imparting the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace.

Location: This bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 2, 2010.

Position: No position

AB 2203 (Solorio) Public Postsecondary Education: College Textbooks

Analysis/Summary: AB 2203 requires the California Community College Board of Governors and the California State University Trustees and encourages the University of California to review internal transfer policies and revise those policies to ensure that textbooks selected for transfer or general education courses may be used by the student for as long as the information in the textbook is current and reflects contemporary thinking in the discipline.

Location: AB 2203 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

AB 2297 (Brownley) Community Colleges: Nonresident Fees

Analysis/Summary: This bill would allow local CCC governing boards to adopt a nonresident fee that is no greater than the average of nonresident fees of public community colleges in 12 states with comparable costs of living, based on a cost-of-living index as determined by the United States Department of Labor or a cooperating government agency.

Comments: Recent amendments require that additional revenue generated by increasing nonresident fees be used to expand and enhance services for resident students. The Chancellor's Office will also be required to provide the Legislative Analyst's Office with fiscal data on nonresident students.

Location: AB 2297 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee on June 23, 2010 and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

SB 957 (Price) Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant C Awards

Analysis/Summary: SB 957 requires the California Student Aid Commission to give priority for Cal Grant C awards to students pursuing training in fields with high employment need, high salary or wage projections, or high employment growth. It also calls for a review and update to the areas of occupational and technical training for which students may utilize Cal Grant C awards at least every five years. The Legislative Analyst's Office is required to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature on the outcomes of the Cal Grant C program every other year beginning April 1, 2014.

Comments: The purpose of this bill is to maximize California's return on investment in the Cal Grant C program through better alignment of the program with workforce needs.

Location: SB 957 passed the Senate and the Assembly Higher Education Committee and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 4, 2010.

Position: No position

SB 1460 (Cedillo) Student Financial Aid: Eligibility

Analysis/Summary: This bill establishes the California Dream Act of 2010 and provides that a person who is eligible under AB 540 provisions would be eligible to apply for state financial aid at the California Community Colleges and the California State University.

Comments: The June 2, 2010 amendment added a starting date for exemption of July 1, 2011. Additionally, the amendment added a provision that if a student is exempt from paying nonresident tuition, the student could receive a scholarship from non-state funds from the segment where the student attends college.

Location: SB 1440 passed the Senate and the Assembly Higher Education Committee and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

AB 2551 (Hernandez) Pharmacy Technicians: Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program

Analysis/Summary: This bill would establish within the Health Professions Education Foundation the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program. The purpose of the program is to repay qualifying educational loans of pharmacy technicians who agree to participate in designated medically underserved areas of the state. This program will be implemented only to the extent that sufficient moneys, public and/or private, are available in the California Pharmacy Technician Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program Fund to administer the program.

Comments: Pharmacy Technicians are the second largest field within Allied Health and there are limited options for financial aid support to meet their needs. Pharmacy Technician programs require an AA degree in pharmacy technology, completion of a 240-hour training course accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, or graduation from a school of pharmacy accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education. Registration or tuition fees and lab costs range from \$1,664 at community colleges and \$23,306 at a career or vocational college.

Location: The bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 2, 2010.

Position: No position

STUDENT SUCCESS

AB 2682 (Block) Community Colleges: Student Assessments: Pilot Project (Sponsor)

Analysis/Summary: This bill requires the Board of Governors to establish a pilot project with the goal of creating a set of centralized online assessments in English, Math, and English as a Second Language. Colleges will be asked to use these online assessment tools at a fraction of the cost of their current assessments. These assessments are used for placement and advising. The Board of Governors is directed to convene an advisory committee for the pilot projects and report on specified progress by February 28, 2011.

Location: AB 2682 passed the Assembly and the Senate Education Committee and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: Sponsor/Support

TRANSFER

AB 2302 (Fong) Postsecondary Education: Student Transfer

Analysis/Summary: AB 2302 would not become operative unless SB 1440 is enacted. Provisions of the bill compliment SB 1440 by:

- 1) Requiring the California State University (CSU) and requesting the University of California (UC) to guarantee admission with junior status to a campus of their respective segments to each student who earns an associate degree for transfer;
- 2) Requiring the California Community College (CCC) Board of Governors to inform students of transfer pathways and transfer degrees; and
- 3) Requiring CCC and CSU faculty to consider existing articulation agreements in developing the new associate degree for transfer.

The bill also specifies that new duties related to articulation and the development of the new associate degree for transfer would constitute a state-mandated local program, and repeals provisions of existing law that would not be necessary with enactment of SB 1440.

Comments: This bill makes several changes to current law to support the associate degree for transfer as proposed in SB 1440. It clarifies that students who pursue the new transfer pathway will be granted admission priority over all other students and transfer with junior standing. AB 2302 would enhance implementation of SB 1440. The Chancellor's Office and the CSU are continuing to work with the author to clarify the intent of the language and address the new mandate language requirement.

Location: The bill will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 2, 2010.

Position: Support

SB 1440 (Padilla) California Community Colleges: Student Transfer (Sponsor)

Analysis/Summary: SB 1440 establishes the Student Transfer Achievement Reform (STAR) Act. SB 1440 requires a community college district to grant an associate degree for transfer to a student in that student's field of study once a student has met degree and transfer requirements for a particular major. Upon completion of the transfer associate degree, the student is eligible for transfer with junior standing into the California State University (CSU) system. Students will be given priority consideration when applying to a particular program that is similar to the student's community college area of emphasis. The bill prohibits a community college district or campus from adding local course requirements in addition to requirements of the STAR Act, and prohibits the CSU from requiring a transferring student to repeat courses similar to those taken at the community college that counted toward the associate degree for transfer.

Comments: This legislation greatly streamlines and simplifies the current transfer process, and generates significant cost savings at the campus level that would be used to serve approximately 40,000 additional new community college students and 13,000 new CSU students.

Location: SB 1440 passed the Senate and the Assembly Committee on Higher Education and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 4, 2010.

Position: Sponsor/Support

VETERANS

AB 748 (Gilmore) California Department of Veterans Affairs

Analysis/Summary: AB 748 would create a new division within the Department of Veterans Affairs. The California Veterans Services and Workforce Development Division will be responsible for coordinating with other state agencies for the purposes of ensuring that veterans are receiving the services and benefits they are entitled to and including other agencies in the implementation of various Department of Veterans Affairs programs.

Comments: The bill specifically mentions California Community Colleges as an agency with which this new division should partner.

Location: AB 748 passed the Assembly and the Senate Veteran's Committee and will be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

SB 1075 (Correa) Military Service: Benefits

Analysis/Summary: SB 1075 provides that if a student is called to active, full-time military duty that interrupts the individual's course of study, the institution is required to make arrangements to reasonably accommodate and assist the student in meeting all coursework requirements that he or she may have missed due to compulsory military service. This would apply to both private and public postsecondary institutions.

Comments: This bill is sponsored by the California National Guard.

Location: SB 1075 passed the Senate and the Assembly Higher Education Committee and will be heard by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: No position

*Prepared by the Government Relations Division
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