Legislative Update (Information/Action)

Legislative Context:

The first year of the 2017-18 legislative session began on January 4, 2017. This year, the Legislature will be in session from January 4 through September 15. In the next month, there are several important deadlines to consider. The first deadline is January 20, the last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel. The next important deadline is the last day for the Legislature to introduce new bills, which is set for February 17 at midnight.

The California Legislature returned to Sacramento, welcoming many new members. Senate and Assembly leaders began the early weeks of the session by introducing a series of bills to address concerns with the presidential administration. This will continue to be a key policy focus this legislative session.

The composition of the legislature has shifted over the last five years. One notable change is the number of ethnically diverse lawmakers, which has increased from 47 to 53, with gains made among Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino and multiracial lawmakers. Democrats restored their two-thirds supermajorities in both houses of the Legislature and have dominated both chambers of the California legislature since 1959 with the exceptions being: 1969 to 1971 and 1994 to 1996. Each member represents about 424,000 California residents.

Under new term-limit laws that were enacted in 2012, legislators can serve 12 years in either the Assembly or Senate. After the last election, 100 percent of the Assembly, and a majority of the Senate, are serving under more stable term-limits. The 2017-18 Legislative Session will bring new dynamics, including the fact that in the Assembly, all legislators are serving in a post-recession cuts era. Federally, we can expect a clash of policy agendas.

Below are the leaderships changes in the key committees that affect higher education, specifically community colleges. Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon announced committee chairs for the new session, with no major changes to committees that impact higher education.

Appropriations:

Budget:

Budget Subcommittee #2 – Education:

Higher Education:

Assemblyman Lorena Gonzalez, D-Los Angeles
Assemblyman Phil Ting, D-San Francisco
Assemblyman Kevin McCarty, D, Sacramento
Assemblyman Jose Medina, D-Riverside

California Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin de León also announced his leadership team and committee chairmanships in late December. Many committees saw a shakeup with education welcoming new chairs to its policy and budget committees.

Appropriations:

Budget and Fiscal Review:

Budget Subcommittee #1 – Education:

Senator Ricardo Lara, D-Bell Gardens
Senator Holly Mitchell, D-Los Angeles
Senator Anthony Portantino, D-La Cañada
Senator Review:

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Education: Senator Ben Allen, D-Santa Monica

BILLS FOR POSITIONS:

Below is a list of introduced bills tracked by the League. Since the deadline for introduction of new bills is not until February 17, staff will present a complete list for consideration at the next board meeting. This list is generally for information, but staff is prepared to answer questions.

AB 10 (Garcia, Cristina D) Feminine hygiene products: adequate supply: school and college

bathrooms and shelters.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Coms. on ED. and H. & C.D.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetood	Chantered
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Position Assigned Subject Student LN Services

CCLC Analysis: This bill would require the California Department of Education, public and private institutions of higher education, including the California State University, each community college district, and the governing board of each independent institution to provide an adequate supply of feminine hygiene products sufficient to meet the needs of all female students and to ensure that female students have direct access to feminine hygiene products in school and college bathrooms.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Watch

This bill imposes a state mandate on community colleges. It is unclear if this health and social service is currently covered within student health centers. The severity of the need and lack of access is also unknown.

AB 12 (Cooley D) State government: administrative regulations: review.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on A. & A.R.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Votood	Chantarad
1st House	2nd House	Conc.	Lintoneu	Vetocu	Chaptereu

Position Assigned Subject LN Governance

CCLC Analysis: This bill would require each state agency, on or before January 1, 2020, to review that its regulations, identify any regulations that are duplicative, overlapping, inconsistent, or out of date, and then revise those identified regulations and report to the Legislature and Governor.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Watch

The cost and staffing impact is unknown. This is an activity that currently exists within the Board of Governors authority and does not require a bill.

AB 17 (Holden D) Transit Pass Program: free or reduced-fare transit passes.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on TRANS.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetood	Chantered
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Position Assigned Subject RM

CCLC Analysis: This bill would create a student transit pass program to provide free or subsidized transit passes to middle school and high school students who are eligible for Title I funding and Cal/Pell Grant recipients at the University of California, California State University or attend one of California's community colleges.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Support

AB 19 (Santiago D) Community colleges: enrollment fee waiver.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on HIGHER ED.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetood	Chantarad
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Position Assigned Subject
RM Financial Aid and Fees

CCLC Analysis: This bill would reduce the threshold of need to qualify for the Board of Governor's Fee Waiver (BOG FW) to one dollar. By reducing the threshold of need, this bill would add 33,000 eligible recipients to a program serving 1.1 Million students and add \$23 Million to the current \$806 Million the system spends on the program statewide.

AB 21 (Kalra D) Public postsecondary education: Access to Higher Education for Every Student.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Coms. on HIGHER ED. and JUD.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position

Assigned

Protecting

LN

DREAM Act

Students

CCLC Analysis: Intended to protect AB 540 students, this bill prohibits California's community colleges, the California State University and requests the University of California to the furthest extent legally possible not cooperate with immigration enforcement agencies or officials. Specifically it requires colleges to:

- 1) Not the release of immigration status of a college's students.
- 2) To refuse permission to allow officials of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Agency to enter their campuses without a written description of their planned activities provided at least 10 days before the visit.

- 3) To provide housing or a stipend during breaks to students who cannot return to their families who live outside the country.
- 4) To provide access to legal services for students who face significant risk of being deported.
- 5) If the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals is reversed, provide resources to help these students.

Additionally, it states the intent of the legislature will be to fund the above provisions via an appropriation in the 2017-18 budget.

AB 34 (Nazarian D) Student financial aid: Children's savings account program.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 12/6/2016-From printer. May be heard in committee January 5.

Is Fiscal: N

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Votood	Chantarad
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Position Assigned Subject

RM Financial Aid and Fees

CCLC Analysis: Expresses the intent of the legislature to establish a universal, at-birth statewide 529 savings program to encourage planning to pay for college tuition.

AB 38 (Stone, Mark D) Student loan servicers: licensing and regulation: Student Loan Servicing Act.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 12/6/2016-From printer. May be heard in committee January 5.

Is Fiscal: N

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetood	Chantarad
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Position Assigned Subject
RM Financial Aid
and Fees

CCLC Analysis: Would declare the intent of the legislature to ensure the Student Loan Servicing Act's goals of providing a bill of rights for student loan borrowers is properly implemented.

AB 52 (Cooper D) Public employees: orientation and informational programs: exclusive representatives.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on P.E., R., & S.S.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject RM

CCLC Analysis: Would mandate that all public agencies, including community colleges, provide a mandatory orientation session between new employees and those who elect to leave their union and their collective bargaining representative.

AB 95 (Jones-Sawyer D) Public postsecondary education: California State University: Baccalaureate

Degree Pilot Program.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/10/2017 Text

Introduced: 1/10/2017

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on HIGHER ED.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject LN Transfer

CCLC Analysis: This bill would require the Trustees of the California State University to establish a Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program with the goal of creating a model of articulation and coordination among K–12 schools, community colleges, and campuses of the California State University that would allow students to earn a baccalaureate degree for a total cost not exceeding \$10,000, including the cost of textbooks. The Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program would include campuses of the California State University, community college districts, and county offices of education in up to 7 areas of the state, but would only include institutions that explicitly request inclusion in the program. The bill would require the public postsecondary educational institutions and local educational agencies participating in the pilot program to coordinate their efforts to expedite the progress of participating students.

The bill would:

Memo

- Authorize participating high school students to earn an unlimited number of Advanced Placement course credits under the pilot program, and would provide these students with priority enrollment at participating community colleges.
- Impose grade point average and time requirements on participating students at the community college stage of the pilot program.
- Require a participating California State University campus to accept a minimum of 60 semester units earned by a participating student at a high school or community college.
- Require a participating student to receive priority enrollment status at a participating California State University campus, and would require the participating student to enroll at that California State University campus either in the summer term or the fall semester immediately succeeding the pupil's completion of the required community college coursework.
- Limit bachelor's degrees awarded at the participating California State University campus to a participating student under the program to baccalaureate degrees in one or more of specified fields of study.
- Prohibit the mandatory systemwide fees and tuition and mandatory campus-based fees charged
 to a participating student from being increased during the first two academic years of his or her
 attendance at a CSU campus under the pilot program.

Staff Recommendation: Support if amended.

AB 96 (Ting D) Budget Act of 2017.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/10/2017 Text

Introduced: 1/10/2017

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on BUDGET.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject LN Budget

CCLC Analysis: AB 96 is the Budget Bill for the 2017-18 budget proposal.

AB 172 (Chávez R) Public postsecondary education: residency: dependents of armed forces members.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/17/2017 Text

Introduced: 1/17/2017

Status: 1/18/2017-From printer. May be heard in committee February 17.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject LN Veterans

CCLC Analysis: This bill would extend that resident classification for designated dependents of transferred and retired members of the Armed Forces to those dependents who have been admitted to a public postsecondary institution before the transfer or retirement.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Support

SB 6 (Hueso D) Immigrants: removal proceedings: legal services.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Coms. on JUD. and HUMAN S.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject Protecting RM DREAM Act

Students

CCLC Analysis: Would provide an unspecified amount of funding for legal representation for noncitizens in California facing deportation proceedings. Because deportation hearings are considered a civil matter, those facing deportation do not have a right to legal representation during these hearings. The funding would be appropriated via grants from the Department of Social Services to non-profit agencies that either hire lawyers specializing in deportation proceedings or provide professional development regarding immigration law.

SB 7 (Moorlach R) School district and community college district bonds: project information.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Coms. on ED. and RLS.

Is Fiscal: N

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Position Assigned Subject

LN Bonds and Facilities

CCLC Analysis: This bill would require the governing board of a school district or community college district to specify each project in a school bond in a facilities master plan with cost estimates. The bill would additionally require each planned project and the named school or college campus to be specified.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Watch

SB 12 (Beall D) Foster youth: postsecondary education: financial aid assistance.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Coms. on ED. and HUMAN S.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject RM

CCLC Analysis: This bill would expand services to former foster youth. Specifically it would:

- 1) Require the California Student Aid Commission to work with the Depart of Social Services to create a system that would automatically verify a student's status as a foster youth to aid in process Pell Grant applications.
- 2) Would expand eligibility to receive funds under the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program from 10 community college districts to 20. Funding received under this program can be spend on services such as grants for books and supplies, counseling, tutoring, referrals to health services, recruitment or other services that will benefit former foster youth.
- 3) Require case workers serving foster youth to identify an adult that will help them apply to colleges.
- SB 15 (Leyva D) Student financial aid: Cal Grant C awards.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Com. on ED.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject RM

CCLC Analysis: Would increase the access portion of the Cal Grant C award from \$540 to \$3,000.

<u>SB 16</u> (Wieckowski D) Wage garnishment restrictions: exempt earnings: student loans.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Coms. on JUD. and APPR.

Is Fiscal: N

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Position Assigned Subject
RM Financial Aid and Fees

CCLC Analysis: This bill equalizes the amount a private student loan creditor can garnish the wages of a person who has defaulted on their student loans with the amount the federal government can garnish for federally subsidized loans. Currently private student loan creditors can garnish up to 25% of a person's disposable income, this bill would bring it down to 15%.

SB 25 (Portantino D) Education: integrated K-14 system.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Com. on RLS.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vatood	Chantarad
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Position Assigned Subject

LN K-12
Partnerships

CCLC Analysis: This bill would require the Legislative Analyst to conduct an assessment and make recommendations for the integration of the state's elementary schools, secondary schools and the California Community Colleges into one coordinated education system. In preparing the assessment, the LAO shall consider the expansion of concurrent enrollment programs, determine the cost of providing free access to the California Community Colleges, and determine what, if any, curriculum changes are needed to better facilitate transfer and employment.

Memo

Staff Recommendation: Watch

SB 54 (De León D) Law enforcement: sharing data. Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Com. on PUB. S.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject

Protecting DREAM Act

Students

LN, RM

CCLC Analysis: Would prohibit all police agencies in the state of California, including ones employed by community colleges, from sharing information with immigration enforcement officials.

SB 64 (Wieckowski D) Postsecondary education: student financial aid.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/22/2016 Text

Introduced: 12/22/2016

Status: 1/12/2017-Referred to Com. on RLS.

Is Fiscal: N

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Position Assigned Subject Financial Aid

RM and Fees

CCLC Analysis: Spot bill related to financial aid.

<u>SB 68</u> (Lara D) Public postsecondary education: exemption from nonresident tuition.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/5/2017 Text

Introduced: 1/5/2017

Status: 1/19/2017-Referred to Com. on ED.

Is Fiscal: Y

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Position Assigned Subject

LN, RM

Protecting DREAM Act

Students

CCLC Analysis: Would enable two years spent at a California community college count towards eligibility for instate tuition or state financial aid. Additionally, it would permit those who obtain Associate's Degree or meet minimum transfer requirements to qualify for instate tuition or financial aid.

SB 72 (Mitchell D) Budget Act of 2017.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/10/2017 Text

Introduced: 1/10/2017

Status: 1/11/2017-From printer. Referred to Com. on B. & F.R.

Is Fiscal: Y

Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Desk Policy Fiscal Floor	Conf.	Envalled	Votood	Chantarad
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Position Assigned Subject

CCLC Analysis: Summary: SB 72 is the Budget Bill for the 2017-18 budget proposal.