

**ASCCC Legislative Report
January 18, 2017**

***Legislation with implications for academic and professional matters
Assembly Bills***

***AB19 (Santiago) Enrollment Fee Waiver – California Affordability Promise**

Existing law provides for the waiver of the \$46 per unit fee under certain circumstances, including, among others, that the student either (1) at the time of enrollment is a recipient under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment Program, or a general assistance program, (2) demonstrates eligibility according to income standards established by regulation of the board of governors, or (3) demonstrates financial need in accordance with methodology set forth in federal law or regulation for determining the expected family contribution of students seeking aid. Currently, 60% of community college students qualify for a fee waiver. To qualify for provision (3) above, a student must demonstrate financial need of at least \$1,104.

This bill would lower the amount of unmet financial need a student needs to demonstrate to qualify for a fee waiver to at least \$1

Status: First Reading 12/5/16

ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has long held that access to education should not be limited by financial constraints as evidenced by many resolutions including SP11 6.01, FA03 6.01, and SP03 20.01.

AB21 (Kalra) Access to Higher Education for Every Student - *Urgent

Requires of the CCCs and CSUs, and requests of the UCs, that commencing with the 2017-2018 fiscal year to: refrain from releasing certain information regarding the immigration status of students and other members of the communities served by these campuses; refuse to allow officers or employees of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enter campuses of their respective segments on official business of that agency unless they provide specified information and at least 10 business days' advance notice; provide stipends for health care for all students who are not eligible for Medicaid and who cannot afford health insurance provided through the institution; offer on-campus housing, or a stipend to cover the cost of off-campus housing, during the periods between academic terms to students who face a significant risk of being unable to return to their respective campuses, as specified; provide for access to legal services without cost to students who face a significant risk of being unable to complete their studies because of possible actions by federal agencies or authorities; and ensure that certain benefits and services provided to students are continued in the event that a specified federal policy is reversed.

Status: First Reading 12/5/16

ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has long held that access to education should not be limited by financial constraints as evidenced by many resolutions including SP11 6.01, FA03 6.01, and SP03 20.01. That said, colleges may not be in a position to fulfill all of the proposed measures even when mandated costs are claimed.

Senate Bills

SB12 (Beall) Foster Youth and Financial Assistance

This bill would require the Student Aid Commission to work cooperatively with the State Department of Social Services to develop an automated system to verify a student's status as a foster youth to aid in the processing of applications for federal Pell Grants. In addition, existing law, the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program, authorizes the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to enter into agreements with up to 10 community college districts to provide additional funds for services in support of postsecondary education for foster youth. Existing law provides that these services include, when appropriate, but are not necessarily limited to, outreach and recruitment, service coordination, counseling, book and supply grants, tutoring, independent living and financial literacy skills support, frequent in-person contact, career guidance, transfer counseling, child care and transportation assistance, and referrals to health services, mental health services, housing assistance, and other related services. This bill would expand that authorization from up to 10 community college districts to up to 20 community college districts, and would make conforming changes to other provisions of the program.

Status: Referred to Committees on Higher Ed. and Human Services (1/12/17)

ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC does not have a specific resolution regarding the CAFYES program, but has numerous resolutions in support of access.

***SB15 (Leyva) Cal Grant C Awards – Urgent**

Existing law requires that a Cal Grant C award be utilized only for occupational or technical training in a course of not less than 4 months. Existing law also requires that the maximum award amount and the total amount of funding for the Cal Grant C awards be determined each year in the annual Budget Act.

This bill would instead, commencing with the 2017–18 award year and each award year thereafter, set maximum amounts for annual Cal Grant C awards for tuition and fees, and for access costs, respectively. The bill would also provide that, notwithstanding the maximum amounts specified in the bill, the maximum amount of a Cal Grant C award could be adjusted in the annual Budget Act for that award year. The maximum award amount for tuition and fees would be \$2,462 and the maximum amount for access costs would be \$3,000.

Status: Referred to Ed. Committee (1/12/17)

ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC is very supportive of financial aid programs that improve access including reforms to the Cal Grant program – SP16 6.01.

***SB25 (Portantino) Integrated K-14 System**

This bill would require the Legislative Analyst to conduct an assessment and make recommendations for the complete integration of the state’s elementary schools, secondary schools, and the California Community Colleges. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst, in preparing this assessment, to take specified actions, including recommending the expansion of concurrent enrollment programs and projects conducted pursuant to the California Academic Partnership Program and consulting with the University of California, the California State University, the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, the Department of Education, and the Department of Finance to determine the cost of providing free access to the California Community Colleges and to create a plan for the complete integration of the state’s elementary schools, secondary schools, and the California Community Colleges. The bill would also require the Legislative Analyst to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature.

Status: Referred to the RLS Committee (1/12/17)

ASCCC Position/Resolutions: !!!x*@!!!

Bills of Interest

AB3 (Bonta) Public Immigration Defenders – Urgent

This bill creates a fund to pay for legal council in matters of immigration.

Status: No Action (1/17/17)

AB17 (Holden) Transit Passes

Creates a transit pass program that provides free or reduced cost transit passes to Title 1 middle school and high school students and community college students eligible for Pell Grants, Cal Grants or BoG fee waivers.

Status: Introduced (1/17/17)

AB95 (Jones-Sawyer) Public Post Secondary Education: CSU: Baccalaureate Degree Pilot

Requires CSU to establish a BA degree pilot program to create a model among K-12 schools, community colleges, and CSU campuses to allow a student to earn a BA degree for \$10,000. This bill authorizes up to seven pilot programs among institutions that request to participate. Degrees are limited to the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Requires community colleges to grant priority enrollment to these students.

Status: Introduced (1/17/17)

SB6 (Hueso) Legal Services for Immigrants – Urgent

Similar to AB3 (Bonta), this bill requires legal representation in matters of immigration removal processes.

Status: Referred to Commission on Judiciary and Human Services Committees (1/12/17)

SB32 (Moorlach) Public Employee Retirement

The California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013, on and after January 1, 2013, established various limits on retirement benefits generally applicable to a public employee retirement system in the state, with specified exceptions.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to resume the public employee pension reform begun in the California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013.

Status: Referred to Rules Committee, RLS (1/12/17)

*Indicates bills to be highlighted during the Executive Committee meeting legislation discussion.

^Indicates bill will be removed from next iteration of report since the bill is not germane to the work of the ASCCC or has been replaced by a new bill.

- ACR = Assembly Concurrent Resolution
- ACA = Assembly Constitutional Amendment
- AB = Assembly Bill
- SB = Senate Bill