



## 2016-17 Priority Legislation

### ACTIVE

- [AB 17](#) (Holden) Transit Pass Program- SUPPORT
- [AB 21](#) (Kalra) Access to Higher Education- SUPPORT
- [AB 216](#) (Gonzalez-Fletcher) Vote-by-mail Ballots: Prepaid Postage- SUPPORT
- [AB 422](#) (Arambula) Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program- SUPPORT
- [AB 490](#) (Quirk-Silva) College Access Tax Credit- SUPPORT
- [AB 957](#) (Levine) Higher Education Regional Workforce Coordination- SUPPORT
- [AB 1064](#) (Calderon) Student Discretionary Expenses Survey- SUPPORT, if amended
- [AB 1178](#) (Calderon) Student Loans- SUPPORT
- [SB 16](#) (Wieckowski) Wage Garnishment Restrictions: Student Loans- SUPPORT
- [SB 54](#) (De Leon) California Values Act- SUPPORT
- [SB 68](#) (Lara) AB 540 Modernization- SUPPORT
- [SB 478](#) (Portantino) Transfer Agreements- SUPPORT

### 2-YEAR BILLS

- [AB 169](#) (O' Donnell) State Teacher Grant- SUPPORT
- [\\*AB 370](#) (Rodriguez) Competitive Cal Grants A and B- SUPPORT
- [AB 379](#) (Gomez) California Kickstart My Future Loan Forgiveness - SUPPORT
- [AB 393](#) (Quirk-Silva) Tuition: Enrollment Fees- SUPPORT, if amended
- [\\*AB 453](#) (Limon) Student Hunger: Swipes to End Hunger- SUPPORT
- [AB 931](#) (McCarty) Suicide Prevention- SUPPORT
- [AB 1037](#) (Limon) Cal Grant B Service Incentive Grant Program- SUPPORT
- [AB 1038](#) (Bonta) Blue Ribbon Commission- SUPPORT, if amended
- [AB 1062](#) (Levine) Trustees of the California State University- SUPPORT
- [AB 1622](#) (Low) Dream Resource Liaisons- SUPPORT
- [SB 307](#) (Nguyen) Student Housing Insecurity and Homelessness Study- SUPPORT
- [SB 803](#) (Glazer) The California Promise- SUPPORT

### FAILED

- [SB 483](#) (Glazer) Higher Education Facilities Bond Act of 2018- SUPPORT
- [\\*SB 326](#) (Nguyen) Middle Class Scholarship- SUPPORT

### CHAPTERED

- [AB 214](#) (Weber) Student Hunger- CO-SPONSOR
- [AB 990](#) (Rodriguez) Off-Campus Housing Costs- SUPPORT

**September Legislative Update- ACTIVE BILLS**

**State Legislation**

**AB 17 (Holden) Transit Pass Program**

**Summary:** This bill would create the Transit Pass Program to be administered by the Department of Transportation. The bill would require the Controller of the State of California to allocate moneys made available for the program, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to support transit pass programs that provide free or reduced-fare transit passes to specified pupils and students.

**Analysis:** Student transit programs in the state and across the country have resulted in significant increases in transit ridership and have made it easier and cheaper for students to get to schools and to jobs. This bill would create the Transit Pass program, to be administered directly or through a third party. The State Controller would be responsible for allocating funds to help support programs that provide free-or reduced transit passes. Eligible transit providers and participants would be required to enter into agreements for the distribution of free or reduced-fare transit passes to students. The CSU would be considered an eligible participant and eligible transit providers are defined as a transportation agency, transportation planning agency, or county transportation commission.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed in the Senate Appropriations committee on 9/1/17 (7:0:0). Ordered to third hearing on the Senate Floor.

**AB 21 (Katra) Access to Higher Education for Every Student**

**Summary:** This bill would require the Trustees of the CSU, the governing boards of community college districts, and request the UC regents, to adopt the following policies: refrain from releasing confidential information including but not limited to the immigration status of students, faculty, and staff; requires all faculty and staff to notify campus president if they suspect or become aware that federal authorities are on campus; assign a staff person who can provide assistance to students, staff, or faculty who may be subject to an immigration enforcement order; maintain a list of known attorneys or legal service providers; and, ensure that AB 540 students who are subject to federal immigration law continue to receive financial assistance as outlined in AB 540.

**Analysis:** On January 25, 2017 the President issued an executive order that aims to deport millions of people with undocumented status. More specifically, the executive order outlines ways in which state and local law enforcement agencies will assist with federal immigration enforcement. As a response to the hostile narrative towards undocumented individuals, and to address concerns over the role of campus police as it pertains to their interaction with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Chancellor White issued policies that make it clear that campus police will not cooperate with ICE. This bill reinforces

those policies and would require postsecondary institutions to adopt additional policies that aim to further protect undocumented students, faculty, and staff.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed in the Senate Appropriations committee on 9/1/17 (5:2:0). Ordered to third hearing on the Senate Floor.

**AB 216 (Gonzalez-Fletcher) Prepaid Postage on Vote-By-Mail Ballots**

**Summary:** This bill would require that the return envelope provided to vote-by-mail voters by election officials have pre-paid postage.

**Analysis:** According to the author, since 2012, between 50 and 60 percent of ballots cast in California statewide elections have been by mail. As of June 2016, 52.3 percent of registered voters in California were registered as permanent vote by mail (PVBM) voters.

Furthermore, counties are increasingly turning to mail ballot elections for their potential to increase efficiency, increase turnout, and reduce costs. Limited pilot programs for mail ballot elections have previously been established in Monterey, Sacramento, San Mateo, Yolo and San Diego counties. Most recently, Senate Bill 450 (Allen, 2015) authorized counties in California to conduct any election as a mail ballot election provided certain conditions, such as the establishment of required vote centers and ballot drop off locations, are met. Some counties will be eligible to begin implementing this starting in 2018. As more and more voters use mail ballots either through individual choice or the decision by counties, it is important to ensure that the process of voting is as equitable as possible.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed in the Senate Appropriations committee on 9/1/17 (5:2:0). Ordered to third hearing on the Senate Floor.

**AB 422 (Arambula) Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program.**

**Summary:** This bill would allow the California State University to establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program.

**Analysis:** In 2010, the Legislature, through AB 867, established the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Pilot Program, which allowed the CSU to establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. The Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree was designed to focus on the preparation of nursing faculty to teach in postsecondary nursing education programs and train nurses for advance nursing practice. The pilot program is set to sunset on July, 1, 2018, this bill would give permanent authority to the CSU to offer Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed in the Senate Appropriations committee on 9/1/17 (7:0:0). Ordered to third hearing on the Senate Floor.

**AB 490 (Quirk-Silva) The College Access Tax Credit**

**Summary:** This bill would eliminate the sunset date for the College Access Tax Credit (CATC) and sets aside funds for outreach efforts informing taxpayers about the CATC.

**Analysis:** The College Access Tax Credit Fund was established in 2014 to encourage tax payers to make charitable donations to the state's Cal Grant program. Under the original credit program, taxpayers contributing to the CATC fund would receive a tax credits equal to 60% of their contribution to offset state tax obligations. Under the current program a taxpayers can receive 50% of the amount contributed to the CATC fund in state tax credits. The remaining revenue is appropriated to CSAC for awarding Cal Grants. This bill would extend the sunset date for this program for 5 years, until 2023.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed Senate floor. In Assembly awaiting Concurrence.

**AB 957 (Levine) the Higher Education Regional Workforce Coordination**

**Summary:** AB 957 requires CSU campuses and request UC campuses participate in regional workforce development collaboration in order to align our higher education institutions with regional workforce demands. This bill also includes a reporting requirement for the campuses to identify what effort have been made in increasing the number of degrees to meet the regional labor demands and what barriers exist in addressing those demands.

**Analysis:** Much has been made of the 2015 PPIC report that found that by 2030, the state projects that we will be 1.1 million bachelor's degrees short to meet the workforce demands of that time. The intent of this bill is to ensure the campuses are identifying and addressing what the regional workforce needs are, as the systems work to graduate more students to fill this future degree deficit. A great example of this regional coordination is the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP). Through higher educational leadership at the CSU, UC, and Community Colleges in the region, as well as business leaders in the area, this partnership has created the relationships and structures necessary to address these regional workforce needs.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed in the Senate Appropriations committee on 9/1/17 (7:0:0). Ordered to third hearing on the Senate Floor.

**AB 1064 (Calderon) California State University: student discretionary expenses survey.**

**Summary:** This bill would, on or before January 1, 2021, and on or before each January 1 every 3 year thereafter, require the California State University to conduct a survey of a

representative sample of the student population at each campus to determine the average student's annual discretionary expenses, which shall not include tuition and fees, to attend the campus.

**Analysis:** Currently, each campus is required to submit information about the cost to attend their campus. This is divided into three sections, students who live with parents, students who live on-campus, and students who live independently off campus. Each section is divided into five categories, fees, book and supplies, food and housing, transportation, and miscellaneous personal. This bill seeks to address a potential issue within the off-campus food and housing section and category. Looking through the numbers provided by the campuses, the dollar figures given do not seem to align with actual housing costs of the city or region. For example, the food and housing costs for CSU Bakersfield are listed as \$13,780 a year. The food and housing costs for San Diego State are listed as \$12,050. These numbers do not seem to reconcile with the housing costs of the city.

**Location:** Passed Senate floor. In Assembly awaiting Concurrence.

**AB 1178 (Calderon) Postsecondary education: student loans**

**Summary:** This bill would require each higher education institution to, to the extent that the institution receives a student borrower's federal, state, and private education loan information, send an individualized letter, by regular mail or electronic mail, to that student that includes specified loan information.

**Analysis:** Currently, students are required to undergo entrance counseling before receiving loans and exit counseling at fruition. However students do not currently receive cumulative loan information while they are enrolled at a post-secondary institution, this bill would require that every year institutions send a letter to students informing them of their cumulative student loan debt. The Indiana University system sent out the student debt letters and they found that between 2011 and 2016 debt decreased by 15%. This bill would require that the letters include a student's total cumulative loan amount, the percentage of federal loans borrowing limit a student has reached, and an estimated monthly payment based on a formula created by each institution.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed Senate floor. In Assembly awaiting Concurrence.

**SB 16 (Wieckowski) Student Loan Repayment Parity**

**Summary:** This bill would prohibit the amount of disposable earnings subject to levy from exceeding 15% of the individual's disposable earnings.

**Analysis:** Currently, private student loan creditors can garnish up to 25% of borrower's disposable income, compared to the 15% federal student loan servicers can garnish. Additionally, federal loan borrowers are afforded more flexibility when it comes to paying back student loans, making it less likely that a student will default on their loan. Private loan borrowers, however, struggle to negotiate flexible repayment options, which can lead

to higher default rates. When a private loan borrower defaults on their loan, through a court issued levy, the borrower can have up to 25% of their wages garnished, this bill would set that limit to 15%.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Failed on the Assembly Floor 6/29/17 (38:24:18). Motion to reconsider.

### **SB 54 (De Leon) California Values Act**

**Summary:** This bill would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies, school police, and security departments from using state/agency resources to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest a person for immigration enforcement purposes.

**Analysis:** The California Values Act, was drafted in response to Donald Trump's threat to deport millions of people. This bill would prohibit state agencies from using state resources to fuel mass deportation by not allowing state agencies to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest a person for immigration enforcement purposes. Additionally, SB 54 would ensure that public schools, state hospitals, and courts are safe and accessible to all people regardless of immigration status by requiring state agencies to develop clear policies about the information they collect from people and the ways in which that information will be safe guarded from immigration enforcement agencies.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed Assembly Appropriations 9/1/17 (11:5:1). Ordered to third hearing on Assembly Floor.

### **SB 68 (Lara) - AB 540 Modernization**

**Summary:** This bill would enable two years at a California Community College to count towards AB 540 eligibility.

**Analysis:** AB 540 enabled undocumented students who graduated from and spent a minimum of three years in a California High School to qualify for in-state tuition. Prior to AB 540 undocumented students who grew up in California were forced to pay international student fees because they could not establish legal residency. Unfortunately, many undocumented students are unable to receive AB 540 benefits if they do not take the traditional path straight from high school to college. This bill would expand the AB 540 criteria to include non-traditional students so that they may qualify for in-state tuition and financial aid.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed Assembly Appropriations 9/1/17 (11:5:1). Ordered to third hearing on Assembly Floor.

### **SB 478 (Portantino) Postsecondary Education: CCC transfer to UC and CSU**





**Summary:** This bill would require California Community Colleges to identify students who have completed all requirements for the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) and add all students with an awarded ADT degree to an identification system that is electronically available for the CSU and the UC enrollment systems.

**Analysis:** In 2014-15, half of the CSU bachelor's degree recipients were students who had transferred there from a community college. In order to streamline the transfer process, the state passed the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act in 2010, which directed all California Community Colleges to develop Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT). Despite the simplifying efforts of the legislature the transfer process remains complex and difficult for students. This bill seeks to strengthen the communication between community colleges and the UC and CSU, so that the institutions have more information to make this transfer process easier for students.

**Position:** Support

**Location:** Passed Assembly Appropriations 9/1/17 (11:5:1). Ordered to third hearing on Assembly Floor.

**Updated: 9/7/2017**