

APR 01 2008

Honorable Denise Moreno Ducheny, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Attention: Mr. Danny Alvarez, Staff Director (2)

Honorable John Laird, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee

Attention: Mr. Christopher W. Woods, Chief Consultant (2)

**Amendment to Budget Bill Items 7980-101-0001 and 7980-101-0890, Local Assistance,
California Student Aid Commission**

**Shift Funding for the California Student Opportunity and Access Program to Federal
Funds (Issue 046):**

It is requested that Schedule (1) of Item 7980-101-0001 be reduced by \$5,730,000 to reflect a shift in funding for the California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) from General Fund to federal funds.

It is further requested that Provision 5 of this item be deleted as follows to conform to this action:

~~"5. Of the funds appropriated in Schedule (1), \$5,730,000 is for the California Student Opportunity and Access Program established pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 69560) of Chapter 2 of Part 42 of the Education Code and shall be available to provide financial aid awareness and outreach to students who are preparing to enter, or are currently enrolled in, college."~~

It is further requested that Item 7980-101-0890 be increased by \$7,349,000 to reflect the availability of additional funds from the federal College Access Challenge Grant. It is anticipated that California will receive \$7.7 million from the College Access Challenge Grant, which is designed to support states in assisting low-income students and families learn about, prepare for, and finance postsecondary education, including career technical education (CTE) opportunities. The 2008-09 Governors' Budget already includes \$330,000 from the College Access Challenge Grant for the Cash for College Program, which provides financial aid workshops to assist low-income students with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form, as well as providing other financial aid information. The balance, or \$7,349,000, is now proposed for the Cal-SOAP program, which provides financial aid outreach and tutoring services to disadvantaged K-12 students to increase their access to postsecondary education. Of this amount, it is proposed that \$1,000,000 be dedicated to CTE awareness and outreach activities, which would promote the value of career technical education, provide information on career programs with sequenced courses beginning in high school and continuing into post secondary education, and the resulting career opportunities that can result from these programs.

APR 01 2008

-2-

It is further requested that provisional language be added as follows to conform to this action:

X. Of the funds appropriated in this item, \$7,349,000 is for the California Student Opportunity and Access Program established pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 69560) of Chapter 2 of Part 42 of the Education Code, as amended in the current legislative session, and shall be available to provide financial aid awareness and outreach to students, who are preparing to enter, or are currently enrolled in, college. Of this amount, \$1,000,000 is dedicated for career technical education public awareness and outreach activities to promote the value of career technical education and the resulting career opportunities. This provision reflects funds anticipated from the College Access Challenge Grant Program authorized by HR 2669 for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 fiscal years.

See attachment A for proposed trailer bill language that would authorize the Cal-SOAP funding for CTE public awareness and outreach activities.

The effect of my requested action is reflected on the attachment.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please call Ed Hanson, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at (916) 445-0328.

MICHAEL C. GENEST

Director

By:

/s/ Fred Klass

VINCENT P. BROWN

Chief Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: Honorable Tom Torlakson, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
 Attention: Mr. Bob Franzoia, Staff Director
 Honorable Bob Dutton, Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
 Attention: Mr. Seren Taylor, Staff Director
 Honorable Mark Leno, Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
 Attention: Mr. Geoff Long, Chief Consultant
 Honorable Roger Niello, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
 Attention: Mr. Peter Schaafsma, Staff Director
 Honorable Jack Scott, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee No. 1
 Honorable Julia Brownley, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2
 Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Legislative Analyst (4)
 Ms. Diane Cummins, Senate President pro Tempore's Office
 Mr. Craig Cornett, Assembly Speaker's Office (2)
 Mr. Ivan Altamura, Chief of Staff, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
 Ms. Diana Fuentes-Michel, Executive Director, California Student Aid Commission
 Mr. Vincent Stewart, Assistant Secretary, Office of the Secretary for Education

APR 01 2008

Attachment A—Trailer Bill Language for CalSOAP

Summary:

The following proposed trailer bill language would amend Education Code Section 69561 and authorize the use of California Student Opportunity and Access Program funding for CTE public awareness and outreach activities.

Proposed Language:

"69561. (a) The Student Opportunity and Access Program is administered by the Student Aid Commission.

(b) The Student Aid Commission may apportion funds on a progress payment schedule for the support of projects designed to increase the accessibility of postsecondary educational opportunities for any of the following elementary and secondary school students:

- (1) Students who are from low-income families.
- (2) Students who would be the first in their families to attend college.
- (3) Students who are from schools or geographic regions with documented low-eligibility or college participation rates.

(c) These projects shall primarily do all of the following:

- (1) Increase the availability of information for these students on the existence of postsecondary schooling and work opportunities.
- (2) Raise the achievement levels of these students so as to increase the number of high school graduates eligible to pursue postsecondary learning opportunities.

(d) Projects may assist community college students in transferring to four-year institutions, to the extent that project resources are available.

(e) Projects may provide assistance to low-income fifth and sixth grade students and their parents in order to implement outreach efforts designed to use the future availability of financial assistance as a means of motivating students to stay in school and complete college preparatory courses.

(f) Projects may promote career technical education public awareness, which would promote the value of career technical education, available career programs in public schools and postsecondary segments with sequenced courses beginning in high school and continuing into post secondary education, and the resulting career opportunities. Of the funds available annually for the Student Opportunity and Access Program, no less than \$1 million shall be utilized for statewide promotion of career technical education opportunities authorized by this subdivision. The Student Aid Commission shall consult with the Department of Education and the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges in determining the projects and activities for these funds.

(f) (g) Each project shall be proposed and operated through a consortium that involves at least one secondary school district office, at least one four-year college or university, at least one community college, and at least one of the following agencies:

- (1) A nonprofit educational, counseling, or community agency.
- (2) A private vocational or technical school accredited by a

national, state, or regional accrediting association recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(g) (h) The commission, in awarding initial project grants, shall give priority to proposals developed by more than three eligible agencies. Projects shall be located throughout the state in order to provide access to program services in rural, urban, and suburban areas.

(h) (i) The governing board of each project, comprising at least one representative from each entity in the consortium, shall establish management policy, provide direction to the project director, set priorities for budgetary decisions that reflect the specific needs of the project, and assume responsibility for maintaining the required level of matching funds, including solicitations from the private sector and corporate sources.

(+) (j) Prior to receiving a project grant, each consortium shall conduct a planning process and submit a comprehensive project proposal to include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- (1) The agencies participating in the project.
- (2) The students to be served by the project.
- (3) The ways in which the project will reduce duplication and related costs.
- (4) The methods for assessing the project's impact.

(+) (k) Each project shall include the direct involvement of secondary school staff in the daily operations of the project, with preference in funding to those projects that effectively integrate the objectives of the Student Opportunity and Access Program with those of the school district in providing services that are essential to preparing students for postsecondary education.

(+) (l) Each project shall maintain within the project headquarters a comprehensive student-specific information system on students receiving services through the program in grades 11 and 12 at secondary schools within the participating districts. This information shall be maintained in a manner consistent with the law relating to pupil records.

(+) (m) At least 30 percent or the equivalent of each project grant shall be allocated for stipends to peer advisers and tutors who meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Work with secondary school students.
- (2) Are currently enrolled in a college or other postsecondary school as an undergraduate or graduate student.
- (3) Have demonstrated financial need for the stipend.

(+) (n) Each project should work cooperatively with other projects in the program and with the commission to establish viable student services and sound administrative procedures and to ensure coordination of the activities of the project with existing educational opportunity programs. The Student Aid Commission may develop additional regulations regarding the awarding of project grants and criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the individual projects.”