

## Item 6

### Action Item

Update on state and federal legislation and issues affecting Commission programs, including consideration of positions on legislation

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#### **SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE(S):**

The following report is an update regarding state legislation affecting Commission programs, as of March 17, 2016. If necessary, updated information will be provided during the staff presentation during the Commission meeting and the Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt positions on the presented bills.

#### **RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):**

Brandon Biegert  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Strategic Policy, Media & Communications

#### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

Attachment 6.1: Legislation Status Tracking Matrix  
Attachment 6.2: Legislation Packet

## CSAC Bill Status Tracker 2016

Bill	Author	Subject	First House				Second House				Gov Sig	CSAC Position	Status	Hearing Date / Outcome
			Policy Com	Fiscal Com	Floor	Rules	Policy Com	Fiscal Com	Floor	Concurrence				
<b>AB 986</b>	Gipson	Compton CCC Dist. BOG Emergency Powers	X	X	X	X	X					Pending	Senate Education	
<b>AB 1370</b>	Medina / Gaines	Direct % of out-of-state tuition to increase In-state	X	X	X	X	X					Pending	Senate Education	
<b>AB 1449</b>	Lopez	Remove HS Grad Requirement from TE	X	X	X	X	X					Pending	Senate Education	
<b>AB 1690</b>	Medina	CCC - Part Time Employees	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 1711</b>	McCarty / Medina	UC out of state tuition % to fund financial aid	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 1721</b>	Medina	TE Age Limit to 31 / Raise Access Award to \$3K	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 1747</b>	Weber	Fee-Free Access to Cal-Fresh as CG Requirement	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	3/29/2016
<b>AB 1888</b>	Low	IPA - Bans CG institutions discriminating on sex	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 1892</b>	Medina	Increase CG C / Set award amount in Legislation	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 1916</b>	Irwin	Requires private for-profit schools to carry bond	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 2056</b>	Garcia E.	Commission will allow mult. Submission Grad.	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 2154</b>	Medina	COMMISSIONERS - Extra year / Fees waived	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 2164</b>	O'Donnel	First Responders Fee Waiver (Not Including UC)	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 2166</b>	Cooper	First Responders Fee Waiver (Including UC)	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
<b>AB 2251</b>	Stone	Student Borrower Bill of Right (Resolution)										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2506</b>	Thurmond	Establishes CHAFEE participation standards										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2520</b>	Rodriguez	Task Force - FAFSA completion study										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2581</b>	Medina	STRF funds to AG for legal aid to Heald students										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2766</b>	Lopez	COMMISSIONERS - 4 student Commissioners										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2786</b>	Chavez	Requires UC / CSU to have 4 year grad. Guarantee										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2787</b>	Chavez	MCS to include private non-profit students										Pending	Introduced	
<b>SB 62</b>	Pavley	Reinstate APLE	X	X	X	X	X	X				Support	Assembly Appropriations	
<b>SB 893</b>	Nguyen	No Fees for San Bernadino victim dependents	X									Pending	Senate Education	
<b>SB 915</b>	Liu	Establishes CA Center on Teaching Careers	X									Pending	Senate Education	
<b>SB 1314</b>	Block	CCC 4 Year Degree - Cal Grant A Award Eligible										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 1583</b>	Santiago	SPOT BILL - CA Promise Program - CCC access expand										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 1741</b>	Rodriguez	SPOT BILL - CCC Promise Program										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 1837</b>	Low	SPOT BILL - Office HE Performance / Accountability										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 1961</b>	Baker	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2123</b>	Baker	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2402</b>	Olsen	SPOT BILL - Changes to Loan Assumption programs										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2434</b>	Bonta	SPOT Bill - Overhaul Master Plan										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2664</b>	Irwin	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 2822</b>	Chiu	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
<b>SB 1358</b>	Block	SPOT Bill - (Likely simliar to 2787 Chavez)										Pending	Introduced	
<b>SB 1359</b>	Block	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
<b>AB 1598</b>	Weber	Assembly Budget Bill										Pending		
<b>SB 825</b>	Leno	Senate Budget Bill										Pending		

Active Bills



CSAC Bill Status Tracker 2016: April 4

Bill	Author	Subject	First House				Second House				Gov Sig	CSAC Position	Status	Hearing Date / Outcome
			Policy Com	Fiscal Com	Floor	Rules	Policy Com	Fiscal Com	Floor	Concurrence				
AB 1449	Lopez	Remove HS Grad Requirement from TE	X	X	X	X	X					Pending	Senate Education	
AB 1583	Santiago	BOG expansion and Access Award	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1711	McCarty / Medina	UC out of state tuition % to fund financial aid	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
AB 1721	Medina	TE Age Limit to 31 / Raise Access Award to \$3K	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1741	Rodriguez	Community College Innovation Grant	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1747	Weber	Fee-Free Access to Cal-Fresh as CG Requirement	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1837	Low	Office of Higher Education Performance... SB42	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
AB 1888	Low	IPA - Bans CG institutions discriminating on sex	X	X								Pending	Assembly Appropriations	4/6/2016
AB 1892	Medina	Increase CG C / Set award amount in Legislation	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1916	Irwin	Requires private for-profit schools to carry bond	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 1961	Baker	Increase Cal Grant Non-Profit to 10K, not WASC	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
AB 2056	Garcia E.	Commission will allow mult. Submission Grad.	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2154	Medina	COMMISSIONERS - Extra year / Fees waived	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2164	O'Donnel	First Responders Fee Waiver (Not Including UC)	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2166	Cooper	First Responders Fee Waiver (Including UC)	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2251	Stone	Student Borrower Bill of Right (Resolution)	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2434	Bonta	Blue Ribbon Commission Higher Education	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2506	Thurmond	Establishes CHAFEE participation standards	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2520	Rodriguez	Task Force - FAFSA completion study	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2581	Medina	STRF funds to AG for legal aid to Heald students	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/5/2016
AB 2664	Irwin	UC Innovation Grants	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2766	Lopez	COMMISSIONERS - 4 student Commissioners	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
AB 2786	Chavez	Requires UC / CSU to have 4 year grad. Guarantee	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
AB 2787	Chavez	MCS to include private non-profit students	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	4/12/2016
AB 2822	Chiu	Community College Emergency Financial Aid	X									Pending	Assembly Higher Education	
SB 62	Pavley	Reinstate APLE	X	X	X	X	X	X				Support	Assembly Appropriations	
SB 893	Nguyen	No Fees for San Bernardino victim dependents	X									Pending	Senate Education	4/6/2016
SB 915	Liu	Establishes CA Center on Teaching Careers	X	X								Pending	Senate Appropriations	4/11/2016
SB 1146	Lara	Higher Education Anti-Discrimination	X									Pending	Senate Education	4/6/2016
SB 1314	Block	CCC 4 Year Degree - Cal Grant A Award Eligible	X	X								Pending	Senate Appropriations	
SB 1357	Block	Cal Grant B Access Award augmentation \$1,500											Introduced	
SB 1358	Block	Expands Cal Grant Eligibility to 6 years	X									Pending	Senate Education	4/13/2016
SB 1359	Block	Schools must publish materials costs in schedule	X									Pending	Senate Education	4/6/2016
AB 2123	Baker	SPOT BILL										Pending	Introduced	
AB 2402	Olsen	SPOT BILL - Changes to Loan Assumption programs										Pending	Introduced	
AB 1598	Weber	Assembly Budget Bill										Pending		
SB 825	Leno	Senate Budget Bill										Pending		

Active Bills



CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION  
STATEMENT OF POLICY PRIORITIES (2014)

As the primary state agency responsible for administering California's student financial aid programs, and in furtherance of its responsibility to provide policy leadership on student financial aid issues, the California Student Aid Commission establishes the following policy priorities, in no priority order, to fulfill the state's historic, long-term commitment to ensuring both access to and selection of an institution of higher education for students with financial need:

1. Maximize public investment in California students through financial aid that:
  - a. Ensures access for low-income and historically underrepresented California students to our eligible public colleges and universities and non-profit independent colleges; and for profit eligible WASC accredited colleges that meet the 90-10 rule without using state grant aid or Title 38 aid as a means for satisfying the non-Title IV revenue requirement.
  - b. Ensures sufficient financial support for living expenses and costs of attendance for low-income community college students.
2. Maximize the effectiveness of state-authorized financial aid programs through consequential quality standards and consumer protections for students attending any California college.
3. Advance awareness of financial aid for California students and parents through sufficient funding and support for comprehensive outreach programs and financial literacy programs that include federal, state and institutional aid, loans and other opportunities to cover the cost of college.
4. Influence and inform federal policy on financial aid policy and programs that affect
  - a. California students, parents and college institutions
5. Maximize the effectiveness of state-authorized financial aid programs through sufficient funding and support for the operations of the California Student Aid Commission.

*\*Priorities numbered for reference within this document, not to indicate ranking or prioritization*

*Approved by the California Student Aid Commission on February 21, 2014*

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1449 Lopez	Removes High School Graduation Requirement for Transfer Entitlement
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### SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Transfer Entitlement

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** 1

**Summary:** Current law requires students who receive the Transfer Entitlement be a high school graduate. AB 1449 replaces this requirement, instead requiring that the student have been a California resident on their 18th birthday. AB 1449 affects a discrete population of students who did not receive a high school diploma, but successfully transferred from a community college.

**Background:** The Transfer Entitlement allows a student who transfers from a community college to a qualifying 4-year institution to receive a Cal Grant A or B. Under the current Transfer Entitlement requirements, a student who did not complete high school, but later attends and excels at a Community College, and successfully gains admission to a university is ineligible to receive the Cal Grant.

There is another bill – AB 1721 (Medina) – which would raise the Transfer Entitlement age limit from 28 to 31.

**Amendments:** Include an appropriation for administrative costs.

**Cost:**

**Personnel:** IT requires approximately **\$183,600** to cover developer and business analyst contracts. This estimate is an approximation, and may change pending a complete implementation planning and system integration process.

**Local Assistance:** CSAC has identified costs starting at **\$1.4M** in 2016-17, **\$2.5M** in 2017-18, and plateauing at **\$2.8M** in 2018-19. These cost estimates are based on students identified in our system as having been denied a Cal Grant due to the high school requirement.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1721 Medina	Cal Grant B Access Award, Transfer Entitlement, and Competitive Cal Grant Modifications
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### SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Cal Grant B, Transfer Entitlement, Competitive Cal Grant

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 1**

**Summary:** AB 1721 makes several changes to the Cal Grant programs:

- Raises the base Cal Grant B Access Award from \$1,551 to \$3,000
- Transfer Entitlement:
  - Raises the age limit from 28 to 31
  - Allows a 3 year gap between attending community college and a 4 year institution
- Raises the number of Competitive Cal Grant Awards from 25,750 to 30,000

**Background:** This bill attempts to include financial aid in efforts to align California higher education with the cost of higher education and the needs of the shifting labor market. Several initiatives, including the President's proposal for free community college, have focused on increasing access and affordability for community college students. The Cal Grant at 4 year universities is tied to tuition and fees, and therefore rises to meet, at least in part, the increased financial needs of students in those segments. For California's community college students, however, state grant aid is available in the form of an access award which is not coupled with the rising cost of attendance and has not kept pace with increases in the cost of attendance. The Cal Grant B Access Award was equivalent to approximately \$6000 in 2015 dollars, according to The Institute for College Access and Success, yet the base award remains \$1,551.

The Transfer Entitlement changes, and to some extent the increase in Competitive Award numbers, are an acknowledgment that many community college students are older, and seeking job skills necessary in today's labor market. The Public Policy Institute of California claims that we need 1 million additional college graduates to meet California's labor market needs, and providing assistance to older students who are seeking a transfer aligns with that goal. The increase in Competitive awards is also an acknowledgment of the extreme level of unmet need of 390,000 eligible students competing for 25,700 awards.

**Amendment:** Include an appropriation for administrative costs.

**Cost:**

Personnel: PASD requires 2 additional Associate Government Program Analysts to make and maintain changes to the Grant Delivery System, as well as for training and materials, and ongoing customer service support operations: **\$195,000**

Facilities: **\$30,000**

Local Assistance: CSAC has identified first year costs of **\$378.3M**.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1747 Weber	Fee-Free Cal Fresh Access as Requirement of Institutional Participation Agreement
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### SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Institutional Participation Agreement (Cal Grant)

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 1 and 2**

**Summary:** AB 1747 requires that CSAC add to the IPA a condition for participating in the Cal Grant programs requiring institutions to provide access to fee-free Electronic Benefit Access (EBT) terminals for using Cal-Fresh (food stamp) benefits.

**Background:** California's implementation of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, CalFresh, provides benefits to individuals and families in need, which can be used to purchase food items and certain other necessities. The benefits are distributed on an EBT card, similar to a debit card. Also similar to debit cards, many payment terminals charge transaction fees at the time of purchase. AB 1747 would require that, in order to qualify for participation in the Cal Grant program, institutions would have to provide access to terminals which do not charge fees for EBT transactions.

As the cost of attendance continues to rise for students pursuing higher education, food security for students has become a concern for policy makers. Both the California State University and the University of California have undertaken initiatives to address this issue, including providing food bank services for students. Preliminary survey data from the University of California indicates that as many as 26% of their students skip meals due to the inability to afford food.

While the goals of this bill align with the policy priorities of the California Student Aid Commission, it is questionable whether including the requirement in the Institutional Participation Agreement, essentially a management contract for participating institutions, is the most efficient means to accomplish the goal. Putting the requirement in statute is sufficient to compel the conditions for participation.

**Amendment:** Include an appropriation for administrative costs.

**Cost:**

Audits: **\$120,000** for 1 Associate Management Auditor to handle additional on-site audit workload associated with this bill.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1888 Low	Anti-Discrimination Requirement in Institutional Participation Agreement
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### SUPPORT If Amended (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Institutional Participation Agreement (Cal Grant)

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 2**

**Summary:** AB 1888 requires that CSAC add to the Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) a condition for participating in the Cal Grant programs requiring institutions to certify that they will not subject students and employees to discrimination based on, among other things, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Further, it requires that the school not apply for, or receive, a federal exemption from Title IX anti-discrimination requirements.

**Background:** This bill seeks to ensure that higher education institutions participating in the Cal Grant program are required to certify that they do not discriminate based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Additionally, it restricts Cal Grant institutions from seeking federal exemptions from similar Title IX anti-discrimination requirements.

In 2015 the Human Rights Campaign released a list of 56 colleges and universities that had sought or received Title IX exemptions from anti-discrimination requirements since 2012, including 4 Cal Grant participating non-profit religious schools in California.

While the goals of this bill align with the policy priorities of the California Student Aid Commission, it is questionable whether including the requirement in the IPA, essentially a management contract for participating institutions, is the most efficient means to accomplish the goal. Putting the requirements in statute is sufficient to compel the conditions for participation.

Concerns have been raised regarding current language potentially denying single sex universities from participation in the Cal Grant program.

**Amendments:**

- Provide a grandfathering provision for existing Cal Grant recipients at affected institutions which ensures they will not have their Cal Grant cut off due to this new requirement.
- Provide indemnification for CSAC against any potential legal fees and judgements resulting from legal action related to the implementation of this legislation. Similar measures were taken when AB 540 was introduced to protect public universities.
- Include an appropriation for administrative costs and potential legal costs.
- Technical changes to ensure the bill aligns with author's intent, and does not have unintended consequences – specific language will be included in an addendum.

**Cost: \$239,000** for 2 Associate Management Auditors to cover additional on-site audit workload associated with this bill, which includes review of federal documents and systems.

Unknown legal costs.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1892 Medina	Cal Grant C Augmentation
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### SUPPORT and Seek Amendments (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Cal Grant C

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** 1

**Summary:** AB 1892 makes three changes to the Cal Grant C program:

- 1) Sets the Cal Grant C award at \$3,000 in legislation. There will no longer be a separate Access Award, and the award will no longer be set in the budget.
- 2) Allows it to be used for “access costs,” so community college students will have access to the full award.
- 3) Grants priority, for community college students, to students who are pursuing training in a field deemed high priority in their region by the California Community College Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) program.

**Background:** The Cal Grant C program is designed for students pursuing career vocational education, and who are enrolled in a program that is four months or longer in length. In recent years the Legislature has introduced several prioritization elements to the program. Currently the program grants priority to students who are pursuing high need, high wage, and high growth jobs according the Labor Market Information Division of California’s Employment Development Department. More recently, the award began granting priority to those students deemed “long term unemployed.”

This bill would introduce a new level of prioritization based on the fields determined as high priority by the EWD. This would allow students to receive priority based on the needs of the regional labor market, rather than strictly based upon a more broad view of market needs for the state. The intended result is that, by encouraging students to pursue training in fields with high need regionally, students and local industry will reap the benefits of a tailored work force.

Community college students in Cal Grant C eligible programs are only eligible for the \$547 Access Award, rather than the \$3,009 that students at other institutions receive because of low tuition and the Board of Governors Fee Waiver. This bill would increase the total award to \$3000 and allow it to be used for access costs such as books, transportation, living expenses and supplies. This is the same as the Commission’s 2016-17 BCP request.

These two changes may increase usage of the award by making it more attractive to community college students, and prioritizing programs of regional relevance, which are more likely to be attended by students seeking skills relevant in their local labor market.

**Amendments:**

- Increase the award to **\$3,009** to avoid reducing the award for students in non-community college programs.

- Simplify the prioritization to ensure students are not confused, and to ease administration of the program.
- Provide an additional year for implementation to allow CSAC to ensure proper coordination with the EWD.

**Cost:**

Local Assistance: Additional award cost in 2016-17 is projected to be **\$9.5M**

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 2154 Medina	California Student Aid Commission: Student Commissioners
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### SUPPORT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** California Student Aid Commission

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** Not Applicable

**Summary:** AB 2154 allows a student Commissioner to serve up to an additional year after the expiration of their two-year term if the Governor has not appointed a replacement. Additionally, a student Commissioner who attends a Cal Grant qualifying institution, but does not receive a Cal Grant, will have their tuition and fees waived by their institution up to the maximum Cal Grant award amount for that institution.

**Background:** Under current law, the California Student Aid Commission has two student appointments which rotate among the segments. In theory, this means that at any given time, the students of two segments are directly represented on the Commission, and no segment need wait more than two years between having a student representative. In practice there may be a gap between a student Commissioner's term expiring and a replacement being appointed. This bill would ensure that, should there be such a gap period, the Commissioner whose term has expired can continue for up to one year, ensuring that students continue to be represented on the Commission.

Under current law, Commissioners receive a per diem of \$100 per day of service to the Commission. Proponents of the bill argue that for Student Commissioners who do not receive a full financial aid package, and who may have to work to pay for college, it may be difficult to dedicate sufficient time to Commission materials and issues to gain sufficient expertise to decide important issues relating to student aid. Ensuring that each Student Commissioner receives financial aid during their term of service may also encourage students for whom serving on the Commission would otherwise pose a financial hardship.

**Cost:**

No significant cost increase to CSAC

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 2506 Thurmond	Chafee Entitlement
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### SUPPORT With Amendment (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Chafee.

**Aligns with Commission Priorities: 1**

**Summary:** AB 2506 makes two significant changes to the Chafee Grant for Foster Youth program:

- 1) Changes Chafee from an allocation based program to an entitlement
- 2) Sets institutional standards for participation in the Chafee program similar to those for Cal Grant participating institutions

**Background:** Currently, Chafee funding is split between state and federal dollars, totaling roughly \$15M annually. CSAC disburses as many grants as possible from those funds. Of the approximately 4,000 students who submitted Chafee applications in the 2015-16 academic year, 3,159 received awards before the funding limit was reached. According to the bill's author's office, 1 in 4 eligible students were able to obtain awards.

The federal funding is fixed, therefore any increase in the number of awards given would be funded by the state.

In addition to transforming the Chafee program into an entitlement in California, this bill applies the same quality standards as exist for other state based aid programs to Chafee. These standards include a minimum graduation rate of 30%, and a maximum 3-year Cohort Default Rate of 15.5%. Aligning the Chafee grant with institutional participation standards could provide foster youth, as well as their advocates, a simpler way to gauge the quality of an institution through the use of the Cal Grant Eligible School list.

**Amendments:**

- 1) Include an appropriation for administrative costs.
- 2) Include "grandfather" clause for current recipients at institutions which may become ineligible for participation due to new requirements
- 3) Clarify that CSAC does not need to evaluate quality of out-of-state schools

**Cost**

**Personnel:** **\$330,000** for 2 PT2s and 2 SSAs. This program is labor intensive relative to others, and the PT2s will be required to provide customer service to the foster youth newly eligible for the entitlement. The SSAs will be responsible for institution support, as well as outreach, tracking students who have not accepted their award, training, and program management. The funding would come from an increase in the reimbursement from Health and Human Services.

**Program Cost:** **\$3.6M** to cover 1,115 additional awards, based on 2014-15 numbers.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

<p>AB 2581 Medina</p>	<p>Urgency: Restoration of Heald Colleges Students' Cal Grant Eligibility</p>
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### SUPPORT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Cal Grant, National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (NGEAAP)

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 1 and 2**

**Summary:** AB 2581 is an urgency measure designed to address issues faced by students who were attending Heald College when it closed, and were therefore unable to complete their course of education. The bill is broad, and includes provisions specific to two CSAC programs.

Students who were attending Heald on April 27, 2015 or withdrew after July 1, 2014 are eligible for restoration of up to two years of their Cal Grant or NGEAAP eligibility respectively. The student would be required to notify CSAC of their intent to enroll in a Cal Grant eligible program by July 1, 2018.

Additionally, the bill makes \$1.3M from the Student Tuition Recovery Fund available to the Attorney General's office for grants to legal clinics for purposes of providing legal assistance to former Heald students who are pursuing loan forgiveness.

**Background:** On April 27, 2015 Corinthian Colleges Inc. closed all of its California Heald College campuses. AB 573 was introduced to provide relief to those students who planned to continue their education at a Cal Grant eligible institution. The California Student Aid Commission voted to support AB 573. The bill restored Cal Grant eligibility to students who had used the Cal Grant, but were unable to complete their education due to the closure of Heald college campuses. The bill was ultimately vetoed (veto message attached) by Governor Brown.

AB 2581 is structured very similarly to AB 573, which the commission supported last year, in that it offers the same restoration of Cal Grant and NGEAAP benefits to former Heald students, and pushes back the date they would be required to notify CSAC of their intent to utilize the benefits. This is an attempt to hold harmless these students by allowing them to continue their education at a Cal Grant eligible institution.

**Cost:**

Personnel: None

Local Assistance: Additional award cost of approximately **\$9.6M** (estimate based on AB 573)



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 8 2015

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

Assembly Bill 573 would extend Cal Grant eligibility for former students of Heald College and create a grant program within the Attorney General's office to fund nonprofit organizations providing free legal services to former students of Corinthian Colleges.

I am sympathetic to the many students who were enrolled at Corinthian Colleges when the company abruptly shuttered its doors earlier this year. I signed SB 150, which prevents students whose loans have been discharged from being penalized a second time with a significant tax bill on the value of the loan discharge, which they can ill afford to pay.

The U.S. Department of Education has taken the matter of loan discharge seriously. In recent months, it has greatly eased the burden of filings for many students, and its work to provide a simple, swift and fair process for students continues. As such, it appears premature to create an attorney grant program, especially one that provides little direction on how funds should be used.

While the bill's provisions to extend Cal Grant eligibility for Heald students are well-intentioned, I am not comfortable creating new General Fund costs outside of the budget process, particularly given the Cal Grant augmentations already included in this year's budget. For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • (916) 445-2841



## Legislation Fact Sheet

<p>AB 2766 Lopez</p>	<p>Adds two student members to the California Student Aid Commission</p>
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### Watch (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** California Student Aid Commission

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** Not Applicable

**Summary:** AB 2766 expands the California Student Aid Commissioner from 15 members to 17, adding two additional student members, and ensuring that all four segments are represented as opposed to rotating through two at a time.

**Background:** Under current law, the California Student Aid Commission has two student appointments which rotate among the segments. In theory, this means that at any given time, the students of two segments are directly represented on the Commission, and no segment need wait more than two years between having a student representative. This bill ensures that students at all segments receive representation consistently.

This bill is sponsored by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. Student groups are actively seeking ways to address the rising cost of attending college, and the diminishing value of financial aid available to students at California's community colleges.

It is questionable whether adding two additional students to the Commission is the most expedient way for students to engage the Commission. In addition to appointments reserved for students, each Commission meeting has several opportunities for public comment, and CSAC staff is always available to work with representatives from student groups.

**Sponsor:** This bill is sponsored by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges

**Cost:**

Approximately **\$6,400** to cover Commissioner travel and equipment

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 2787 Chavez	Expands Middle Class Scholarship to Non-Profit Schools
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### SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Middle Class Scholarship.

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 1**

**Summary:** AB 2787 expands the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) to include students attending California Private Non-Profit colleges.

**Background:** The MCS provides financial aid to college students attending California State University and University of California whose family income exceeded the limit for Cal Grant eligibility. As college costs have continued to rise, the middle class has struggled to afford the increased tuition and fees, without access to financial assistance available to lower income households, or the wealth available to higher income families. The MCS was created to recognize that middle income families also need assistance to pursue a higher education.

The MCS is designed to ensure that, upon full implementation, recipients are able to secure non-loan financial aid equivalent to 40% of their tuition and fees.

At the same time that cost pressures are threatening the middle class' ability afford a college education, strained capacity at California's public universities is making it harder to secure a seat. The Private Non-Profit institutions are often considered a viable alternative to a public 4-year university for students who could qualify at a CSU or UC, but who were denied their institution of choice due to capacity limitations. This bill seeks to ensure that students at non-profit institutions receive financial aid similar to that of their peers in the public segments.

#### Potential Amendments:

- 1) Remove exemption for students at Private Non-Profit schools from Ed. Code Section 70023. That section is key to CSAC's ability to manage the MCS, and excluding a participating segment creates significant issues with the administration of the program.
- 2) Language ensuring that institutions meet Cal Grant eligibility requirements.
- 3) Align the MCS award calculation at non-profit schools with tuition at the University of California.
- 4) Include an appropriation for administrative costs.

#### Cost:

IT: **\$183,600** for developer and analyst personnel costs associated with system changes and integration

PASD: **\$327,000** for 2 AGPAs ongoing to develop business rules, and administer the new program requirements and 2 SSAs for ongoing training, and to handle institutional and student support.

Audits: **\$239,000** for two Associate Management Auditors to handle on-site audit workload.

Other: **\$50,000** to cover State Controller Office fees to set up payments

## Legislation Fact Sheet

SB 62 Pavley	Reinstates APLE Program
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### Watch (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Assumption Program of Loans for Educators (APLE)

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** 1

**Summary:** SB 62, in its current form, makes changes to the APLE program including requiring the recipient to exhibit financial need, agree to teach in a shortage field as defined by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), and requires the SPI to provide the Commission with information necessary to administer the program. NOTE – This bill will almost certainly change significantly as it goes through Committee.

**Background:** Currently, the APLE program, which provides loan repayment for teachers who serve in low-performing districts, is not granting new warrants. The current teacher shortage has prompted an effort within the legislature and other policy bodies to examine the need for teacher recruitment and incentives. There have been several suggested strategies to attract and train quality teachers into shortage areas, and it seems likely that APLE will be included in the final package of policy proposals. At the time of its shut-down, APLE was the last remaining state-funded incentive program to attract new teachers into the field.

In 2015, SB 62 was held in Committee. In 2016 many of the provisions added during the Committee process has been removed, and the bill is expected to change – likely significantly – as the Legislature develops a bill package to address the teacher shortage. Several questions have been raised regarding how to best ensure that APLE successfully attracts qualified teachers to areas in need. Additionally, in last year’s version of the bill, 1000 new warrants were authorized in legislation, rather than leaving the number to the budget process as was historically the case. That provision has been removed.

While this bill is not a “spot bill” in the sense that it is waiting for content, it is safe to look at this bill as a template upon which a new, or significantly changed, APLE program will be crafted.

CSAC submitted a BCP for the 2016-17 budget year containing a request to reinstate APLE at 1000 warrants. The costs detailed below reflect the numbers contained in the BCP. These costs are contingent on the number of warrants authorized in the Budget.

**Amendment:** Include an appropriation for administrative costs.

**Cost:**

**Personnel:** **\$894,000** for 3 AGPAs, 1 SISA, 2 PT2s, one Program Manager, and one APA. These positions will be required to process applications, coordinate with lenders, create or modify the APLE database, and handle support calls. Most staff formerly assigned to manage APLE have been reassigned to other projects as the program wound down and CSAC was tasked with additional programs including Middle Class Scholarship and the Dream Act.

**Program Cost:** 2018-19: \$4 million, 2019-20 \$8 million.

## Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1314 Block	Cal Grant A for Community College baccalaureate Degree Programs
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### Support (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Cal Grant A

**Alignment with Commission Priorities:** 1

**Summary:** AB 1314 clarifies that students attending the Community College baccalaureate degree programs are eligible to receive the Cal Grant A.

**Background:** SB 850 (Block) 2014 established a pilot program within the California Community colleges in which students would be able to pursue baccalaureate degrees at certain campuses. Currently, Community College students who are awarded the Cal Grant A have their award put on hold so that when they transfer they can maintain full eligibility. The Cal Grant A covers tuition and fees, but does not feature an access award to cover additional expenses, so for most students it would simply be offsetting the Board of Governor's fee waiver (BOG). The Baccalaureate credits are not covered by the BOG, so students would benefit from having them covered by a Cal Grant A as do students at other bachelor's degree granting institutions.

This bill ensures that students attending community college baccalaureate degree programs are able to receive the Cal Grant A to cover their tuition and fees.

At the time of printing, the details of implementation had not been decided upon, and so a full analysis of cost and necessary amendments could not be completed. A full analysis will be provided at the meeting as an addendum.

**Amendments:**

- 1) Include an appropriation for administrative costs.
- 2) Technical amendment to ensure CSAC has legislative authority to pay awards to Community College students.

**Cost:** TBD

## Bills of Interest

### Other bills for consideration of position

#### **AB 2056 (Garcia)**

In its current form, AB 2056 requires the Commission to allow high schools to submit graduation verification as many times as necessary to ensure receipt of the confirmation. This bill was the result of some confusion among some high school counselors about how the graduation verification screen works, and steps have already been taken to make the screen more user friendly, as well as to provide additional training to high school counselors. CSAC staff have been working with the author's office, and the bill is likely to be amended to instead implement a deadline for high schools to report graduation status, which will provide more clarity to the process.

#### **AB 2520 (Rodriguez)**

This bill expresses the intent of the Legislature to establish a task force to study and recommend strategies to increase the number of students who complete the FAFSA. While the bill is in "spot bill" form, the intent of the bill aligns with CSAC's mission, and that of its ancillary organizations Cal-SOAP and Cash for College. This bill offers the opportunity to identify ways to increase FAFSA completion, which in turn increases college access and affordability. CSAC's role as the chief agency overseeing financial aid programs in California makes it a logical choice for involvement with, or leadership in the task force.

#### **AB 2251 (Stone)**

This bill establishes the Student Borrower's Bill of Rights, consisting of:

- 1) The right to meaningful access to federal affordable repayment and loan forgiveness benefits for which he or she is eligible.
- 2) The right to reliable information about his or her student educational loan and loan repayment options.
- 3) The right to quality customer service and fair treatment.

This bill is sponsored by The Office of the Attorney General

While CSAC does not deal in student loans, the Commission has expressed a deep concern about the issue of student debt, and the Student Borrower's Bill of Rights is a consumer protection in line with Commission policy Priorities.

### Other Bills of Interest

#### **AB 1711 (Medina / McCarty)**

This bill requires the University of California, as a condition of receiving state funds, to limit enrollment of nonresident students to 15.5% systemwide. Further, at least 50% of the revenue in excess of the marginal cost of instruction generated from nonresident tuition must be used to increase enrollment of California students in the University of California system.

**AB 1916 (Irwin)**

Requires private for-profit institutions, and private non-profit institutions less than 15 years old, to post a surety bond approximately equal to the total amount of tuition and fees charged to students in an academic year. In the event of a school closure the bond would be used to reimburse students and the Student Tuition Recovery Fund. These schools would also be required to implement a “teach out.” This bill is a response to the situation in 2015 in which Corinthian Colleges Inc. closed its Heald campuses, and students were not covered under the Student Tuition Recovery Fund.

**AB 2166 (Cooper)**

Current law prohibits the CSU, and requests the UC refrain from, charging mandatory systemwide fees to survivors of first responders who died in the line of duty. This bill extends these provisions to cover campus-based fees as well.

**AB 2164 (O’Donnell)**

Current law prohibits the CSU, and requests the UC refrain from, charging mandatory systemwide fees to survivors of first responders who died in the line of duty. This bill extends these provisions to cover any mandatory tuition or fee. It also extends the benefit to include survivors of first responders who die as a result of industrial accidents or illness related to the execution of their duties.

**SB 915 (Liu)**

This bill establishes the California Center on Teaching Careers, which will serve as the chief agency for teacher recruitment in California. Among its duties will be to create and distribute recruiting materials, establish a database of qualified teachers seeking employment, and coordinate with local education agencies on recruitment activities.

**Ab 986 (Gipson)**

Requires the Special Chancellor of the Compton Community College District, appointed by the California Community College Board of Governors, to report to the Legislature within 150 days in the event of a decline in performance, along with an action plan detailing strategies to rectify the issue in a timely manner.

**AB 1690 (Medina)**

This bill sets minimum requirements for the California Community Colleges when negotiating collective bargaining agreements relating to part-time faculty. These requirements include detailed seniority, preference for assignments, and disciplinary procedures similar to a tenured position.

**AB 2786 (Chavez)**

This bill requires the California State University, and requests the University of California to offer eligible students a guaranteed 4-year graduation pathway. It would require students be assessed for eligibility based on ACT or SAT testing, sign an agreement including required courses and a course plan, and receive priority enrollment to necessary courses. 5-year graduation pathways would be allowed for programs that traditionally require 5 academic years to complete.

### **Spot Bills Being Monitored**

AB 1961 (Baker) Subject: Financial Aid

Ab 2123 (Baker) Subject: Postsecondary Education

AB 1583 (Santiago) Subject: Postsecondary Education

AB 1741 (Rodriguez) Subject: California Community College Promise Program

AB 1837 (Low) Subject: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability

AB 2402 (Olsen) Subject: Loan Assumption

AB 2434 (Bonta) Subject: Postsecondary Education Accountability

AB 2664 (Irwin) Subject: Financial Aid

AB 2822 (Chiu) Subject: Financial Aid

SB 1358 (Block) Subject: Financial Aid

SB 1359 (Block) Subject: Financial Aid

### **Budget Bills**

AB 1598 (Weber)

SB 825 (Leno)



## April 2016 Legislation Package – Updates

This packet contains important updates to legislation tracked by Commission staff which occurred after the analyses for this item were completed. In most cases the bills or versions in this packet have not yet been fully analyzed, but do have the potential to impact programs and operations. This packet also contains information on bills which have been amended significantly from the version analyzed in the noticed item.

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CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID  
COMMISSION STATEMENT OF POLICY  
PRIORITIES (2014)

As the primary state agency responsible for administering California's student financial aid programs, and in furtherance of its responsibility to provide policy leadership on student financial aid issues, the California Student Aid Commission establishes the following policy priorities, in no priority order, to fulfill the state's historic, long-term commitment to ensuring both access to and selection of an institution of higher education for students with financial need:

1. Maximize public investment in California students through financial aid that:
  - a. Ensures access for low-income and historically underrepresented California students to our eligible public colleges and universities and non-profit independent colleges; and for profit eligible WASC accredited colleges that meet the 90-10 rule without using state grant aid or Title 38 aid as a means for satisfying the non-Title IV revenue requirement.
  - b. Ensures sufficient financial support for living expenses and costs of attendance for low-income community college students.
2. Maximize the effectiveness of state-authorized financial aid programs through consequential quality standards and consumer protections for students attending any California college.
3. Advance awareness of financial aid for California students and parents through sufficient funding and support for comprehensive outreach programs and financial literacy programs that include federal, state and institutional aid, loans and other opportunities to cover the cost of college.
4. Influence and inform federal policy on financial aid policy and programs that affect
  - a. California students, parents and college institutions
5. Maximize the effectiveness of state-authorized financial aid programs through sufficient funding and support for the operations of the California Student Aid Commission.

*\*Priorities numbered for reference within this document, not to indicate ranking or prioritization*



## Updates to Noticed Analyses Legislation Fact Sheet

AB 1888 Low	Anti-Discrimination Requirement in Institutional Participation Agreement
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### SUPPORT IF AMENDED (Staff Recommendation)

**Programs Impacted:** Institutional Participation Agreement (Cal Grant)

**Alignment with Commission Priorities: 2**

**Summary:** AB 1888 requires that CSAC add to the Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) a condition for participating in the Cal Grant programs requiring institutions to certify that they will not subject students and employees to discrimination based on, among other things, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Further, it requires that the school not apply for, or receive, a federal exemption from Title IX anti-discrimination requirements.

**Background:** This bill seeks to ensure that higher education institutions participating in the Cal Grant program are required to certify that they do not discriminate based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Additionally, it restricts Cal Grant institutions from seeking federal exemptions from similar Title IX anti-discrimination requirements.

In 2015 the Human Rights Campaign released a list of 56 colleges and universities that had sought or received Title IX exemptions from anti-discrimination requirements since 2012. Four of the identified schools, Biola University (888 recipients), Fresno Pacific University (795 recipients), Simpson University (343 recipients) and William Jessup University (329 recipients), are Cal Grant participating institutions, serving 2,355 Cal Grant recipients in the 2014-15 academic year.

Concerns have been raised that while the goals of this bill align with the policy priorities of the California Student Aid Commission, it is questionable whether including the requirement in the IPA, essentially a management contract for participating institutions, is the most efficient means to accomplish the goal. It is argued that putting the requirements in statute is sufficient to compel the conditions for participation.

Also, concerns have been raised regarding current language potentially denying single sex universities from participation in the Cal Grant program. Both Title IX at the federal level, and the Equality in Higher Education Act at the state level provide exemptions to allow the existence of single sex institutions. It is pointed out that this bill, as written, could exclude such institutions from participating in the Cal Grant program. This is not the intent of the author so clarifying amendments are needed to clarify this situation.

Further concerns have been raised that these anti-discrimination requirements could impact every religious institution in the state. The author's office has responded by pointing out that very few of them have sought exemptions from Title IX requirements, which means that most institutions have found a way to operate within the anti-discrimination guidelines therein. Since the anti-discrimination requirements in this bill are also required under Title IX, it is unlikely that an institution which does not require a Title IX exemption would have difficulty meeting the conditions of this bill.



Finally, CSAC staff have concerns regarding potential legal costs associated with implementing this bill. The bill deals directly with issues of religious freedom, and there have been a number of cases which have gone to the United States Supreme Court recently having to do with this topic. CSAC's budget could not easily absorb the expense of litigation.

**Amendments:**

- Provide a grandfathering provision for existing Cal Grant recipients at affected institutions which ensures they will not have their Cal Grant cut off due to this new requirement.
- Provide indemnification for CSAC against any potential legal fees and judgements resulting from legal action related to the implementation of this legislation. Similar measures were taken when AB 540 was introduced to protect public universities.
- Include an appropriation for administrative, as well as potential legal costs.
- Include language ensuring that single sex institutions are not excluded from Cal Grant as a result of admitting students of one sex.

**Cost:**

**\$239,000** for 2 Associate Management Auditors to cover additional on-site audit workload associated with this bill, which includes review of federal documents and systems.

**Unknown legal costs.**

**Support and Opposition**

<b>Support</b>	<b>Opposition</b>
American Civil Liberties Union Equality California The California Faculty Association The California Federation of Teachers	Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities Hiroshima-Daggett Law Firm



## **AB 1892 (Medina) – Supersedes Analysis in Item 6.2**

AB 1892 was significantly amended on March 28. While it still focuses on the Cal Grant C program, the original analysis contained in the noticed item should be disregarded for the purposes of taking a position on this legislation. CSAC staff has not yet had the opportunity to conduct a complete analysis on the bill, what follows is a summary of the programmatic changes it would make to the Cal Grant C program.

Currently the Cal Grant C is available to students pursuing career technical training programs between 4 months and 2 years in length at Cal Grant eligible institutions. The program includes a \$547 access award, and a \$2,462 award applicable to tuition and fees. Community college students who receive the award are limited to the \$547 since their fees are covered by the Board of Governor's waiver.

CSAC is currently authorized to provide 7,761 Cal Grant C awards.

AB 1892 makes the following changes to the Cal Grant C program:

1. Renames the program to Competitive Cal Grant C.
2. Aligns the Cal Grant C income ceilings with those of the Cal Grant B, rather than Cal Grant A.
3. Recipients at community colleges would receive an additional \$2,462 access award, allowing them to receive the full \$3,009 available to students at for-profit institutions.
4. Creates a new Cal Grant C program called the Cal Grant C Entitlement program for community college students in programs less than one year in length. The Cal Grant C Entitlement provides a \$3,000 access award.
5. Requires the Commission to work with campuses to provide outreach in order to make potentially eligible students aware of the program.
6. Requires The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to provide CSAC a list of regional priority industry sectors and training programs for the purposes of prioritizing awards.

Significant workload will likely be associated with this bill. Staff will provide details on program and operational costs when the analysis is completed.

This bill aligns with the Commission Priority 1.

Cost: TBD



## **AB 2506 (Thurmond) – Amendment and Revision**

The Chaffee Educational and Training Voucher Program is funded with both state and federal funds. Historically, students have been able to use their grant at any school, and are not restricted to attending institutions in California. Because this bill seeks to make the Chafee program an entitlement, increasing the state's share of program funding, there were questions raised as to whether students would still be able to use their award if they choose to attend out of state institutions, and if the institutional quality standards contained in the bill would be applied to California Foster Youth who chose to attend out of state schools.

The bill was recently amended in the following ways:

- 1) The current version clarifies that students can take their award out of state.
- 2) The Current version specifies that the institutional participation standards apply only to California schools.

Upon further analysis, CSAC staff have identified an additional class of students who would likely be able to receive the grant due to operational changes not related to this bill. This has raised the projected program cost from **\$3.6M** to **\$6.4M**.

## Spot Bills Amended with Significant CSAC Program Impact

### **AB 1961 (Baker)**

SB 1961 (Baker) would increase the maximum Cal Grant award at private non-profit institutions to **\$10,000**. Additionally, it would set the award at private for-profit, WASC accredited institutions at its current level - **\$8,056** -, effective severing the existing connection between awards at these two types of institutions.

CSAC staff has not yet completed an analysis of this bill.

### **AB 2520 (Rodriguez)**

AB 2520 (Rodriguez) requires CSAC to submit a report to the Legislature and Governor by the 2017-18 academic year on measures to increase FAFSA completion. These measures must include:

- 1) At least one measure to ensure that each grade 12 California high school pupil receives adequate time and faculty support to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) during a required course in the first semester of the pupil's grade 12 school year.
- 2) At least one measure to address the barrier of a student who is unable to access his or her parents' financial information in order to complete and submit the FAFSA. The recommended measure or measures shall include a recommendation for a sample statement that the student can sign stating that his or her parents' financial information provided in the FAFSA represents the best information available to the student.

CSAC invests significant time and resources into efforts to increase FAFSA completion through Cash for College workshops, California Student Opportunity and Access Program consortia, as well as numerous other community outreach activities.

CSAC has not yet completed an analysis of this bill.

It should be noted that CSAC currently lacks research capacity, and may require an augmentation for this report, especially given its focus on introducing a mandatory classroom instruction element into the high school curriculum.

### **SB 1146 (Lara)**

SB 1146 (Lara) would limit the exemption from the Equity in Higher Education Act currently applied to private higher education institutions run by religious organization to programs or activities designed to "prepare students to become ministers of the religion, to enter upon some other vocation of the religion, or to teach theological subjects pertaining to the religion..." Additionally, this bill would require institutions which seek exemption from the Equity in Higher Education Act or from requirements of Title IX to prominently display information relating to the exemption, and to report that information to CSAC. Finally, it specifies that students at an institution holding a Title IX exemption may engage in civil action for claims of discrimination under the Equity in Higher Education Act.

This bill is similar in intent to AB 1888. Rather than prohibit schools from seeking Title IX exemptions from the federal government as a condition of Cal Grant participation, however, it broadens the application of state anti-discrimination law to include protections for all except



those in programs designed specifically to train people to enter a religious vocation. Institutions which violate the Equity in Higher Education Act are ineligible to participate in state based financial aid programs, including the Cal Grant.

CSAC has not yet completed an analysis of this bill.

**SB 1357 (Block)**

SB 1357 (Block) requires CSAC to augment community college Cal Grant B recipients' access awards by \$1500. This would be accomplished by establishing a new award called the California Community College Assistance Grant Program.

Currently, the Cal Grant B base award amount is \$1,648 and several augmentations are applied including an augmentation worth several hundred dollars administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and a small augmentation from the College Access Tax Credit which provided an additional \$8 in the 2015-16 academic year.

CSAC has not yet completed an analysis of this bill.

**SB 1358 (Block)**

SB 1358 (Block) expands Cal Grant eligibility from 4 full-time years to 6. This is an effort to ensure that students are able to receive a Cal Grant through graduation, given that the majority of California students are unable to complete their degree programs within the traditional 4 year timeline.

CSAC has not yet completed an analysis of this bill.



## Spot Bills Amended without significant CSAC Program Impact

### **AB 1583 (Medina)**

AB 1583 (Medina) expands eligibility for the Board of Governor's Fee Waiver (BOG) and requires the creation of a new need-based financial aid program administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

In order to qualify for a BOG fee waiver, students would need to have be at no more than 3 times the federal poverty limit, and demonstrate at least \$1 of need. BOG recipients would also be eligible for a financial aid award to help pay access costs of up to \$1,000.

### **AB 1741 (Rodriguez)**

AB 1741 (Rodriguez) would establish the California community Promise Innovation Grant Program, which designates \$25,000,000 of funding provided to community college districts to fund the establishment of regional programs designed to increase college preparation, college access, and college success.

### **AB 1837 (Low and Eggman)**

AB 1837 (Low and Eggman) would establish the Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability (OHEPA) as the statewide postsecondary education coordination and planning entity. This bill is very similar to SB 42 (LIU) 2015, which passed out of the Legislature, but was ultimately vetoed by the Governor. The Commission took a Watch position on SB 42.

### **AB 2434 (Bonta)**

AB 2434 (Bonta) would establish the Blue Ribbon Commission of Public Postsecondary Education, which would be tasked with holding public hearings and assess California's higher education needs, including how best to provide free college to California students, meet the state's capacity needs, and align the state's supply of college graduates with the needs of the business community.

### **AB 2664 (Irwin)**

AB 2664 (Irwin) would appropriate \$66,000,000 from the General Fund to the University of California \$66,000,000 for the purposes of expanding the infrastructure necessary to increase innovation and entrepreneurship to drive economic development.

### **AB 2822 (Chiu)**

AB 2822 (Chiu) authorizes California community colleges to use Student Success and Support Program funds to provide emergency financial aid for students experiencing unforeseen financial challenges.

### **SB 1359 (Block)**

SB 1359 (Block) would require the California Community Colleges and California State University campuses, and request the University of California, to publish the cost of required books and materials for each class in their schedule of classes. This would enable students to better prepare financially for their coursework.