



UC Davis State Government Relations Update January 31, 2016

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Legislative Action on UC Tracked Bills

The legislature reconvened on January 4th. It is the 2nd year of the 2015-16 legislative cycle, and as such the legislature has begun to act on some bills held over from last year. Some of these actions were spurred by deadlines, specifically that January 15 was the deadline for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house in the odd-numbered year. Moreover, January 22 was the last day for any committee to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house in 2015 and it was also the last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel for 2016.

AB 309 (Mathis) failed to pass out of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee. The bill would have required the Department of Water Resources to create and administer the "Edmund G. 'Pat' Brown, Sr., Research Grant" to provide a one-year grant to support research to expand California's water portfolio. It specified that only CSU campuses and UC campuses are eligible for this grant.

AB 735 (Ridley-Thomas) passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill would delete the repeal date of the Student Athlete Bill of Rights, thereby extending it indefinitely. The University's position on the bill is pending.

SB 547 (Liu) passed off the Senate Floor. The bill would create the Statewide Aging and Long-Term Care Services Coordinating Council, and require the California Secretary of Health and Human Services to enter into a contract with the UC Regents to enable the council to either partner with UCSF to operate, revise, and manage CalQualityCare.org or acquire the rights to operate the Website as a consumer-oriented portal that provides specified aging and long-term care information on a statewide basis. The University's position on the bill is pending.

The following link provides a complete list of all the bills we are tracking; [UC Significant Impact Legislation](#).

Governor Releases 2016-17 State Budget

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. released his 2016-17 budget proposal on January 7th. The budget provided the following allocations for UC:

- **\$125.4M base budget adjustment (4%).** The base budget for 2016-17 reflects the expected augmentation of \$25M for enrollment growth funding in budget year 2015-16; the 4% adjustment is calculated on that higher base amount.
- **\$171M one-time funds for UCRP.** These funds are part of a total \$436 million contribution from the State over three years, and are contingent on The Regents adopting a pensionable compensation limit for UCRP consistent with the Public Employees Pension Reform Act of 2013.
- **\$35M one-time funds for deferred maintenance.** This exceeds the UC 2016-17 Budget for Current Operations approved by the Regents in November by \$10M.
- **\$10M one-time to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to be used for the California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine.** This program is hosted by UCSF. These funds are to be used over multiple years for additional demonstration projects and build on one-time funds in the 2014 budget supporting projects at UCSF and UC Santa Cruz.
- **\$25M for projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce future utility charges.** These funds were part of the May revision in 2015 and both budget committees approved it, but a final cap and trade agreement was not part of the final 2015 budget act. The Governor proposes appropriating these funds in 2016-17 instead of the current budget year.

Unfortunately, the budget did not include the following items that were in the UC 2016-17 Budget for Current Operations, approved by the Regents.

- **\$6M enrollment growth.** These funds are to enroll 600 additional graduate students in 2016-17.
- **\$69.1M Cap and Trade.** These funds are to support energy projects that would help the University increase energy efficiency and meet its carbon neutrality goals.
- **\$3M ITS.** These funds are from the Public Transportation Account (gas tax) as a first increment of a 3-year plan to achieve \$9 million over three years for the multi-campus Institute for Transportation Studies.

We will continue to advocate for these items during the 6 month budget process.

A summary and detailed information about the Governor's proposed budget can be found at the Department of Finance's website at <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>. Also, the budget bills, **AB 1598 (Weber)** and **SB 825 (Leno)**, are now also available and in print. The bills incorporate the Governor's proposed spending plan for 2016-17 and are the starting point for legislative discussions on the budget. Both budget bills are identical. UC's budget items are designated with 6440 and start on page 474. Text available at; http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab_1551-1600/ab_1598_bill_20160107_introduced.pdf.

Furthermore, on Monday, January 11, the LAO released its overview of the Governor's budget. The report is available here; <http://lao.ca.gov/reports/2016/3324/budget-overview-011116.pdf>.

Finally, on the week of January 18th, both the Assembly and Senate Budget Committees held hearings to discuss and review the Governor's 2016-17 Budget. An archive of the hearings is available on the California Channel's website at <http://www.calchannel.com/video-on-demand/>.

Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

- February 11th – Assemblyman Dodd to host Women's Forum at King Hall
- February 11th – Sac Metro Chamber's State Legislative Summit
- February 19th – Last day for bills to be introduced.
- February 19th – UC Davis Capitol Speaker Series on Immigration
- March 1st – Legislative Reception Hosted by President Napolitano in Sacramento
- March 1st & 2nd – SGR/GRD Face to Face Meeting

Questions or Need Assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the aforementioned items or would like assistance in connecting with state legislators and/or their staff, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Lopez, Director, State Government Relations. He can be reached at adnlopez@ucdavis.edu or by phone at (530) 752-9795.