



UC Davis State Government Relations Update September 30, 2013

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2013 Legislative Year Wrap Up

The Legislature wrapped up the first year of its 2013-2014 legislative session on September 12th and the Governor has until October 13th to sign or veto any bills passed by the legislature. UC is not requesting any vetoes from the Governor this year. Below are some pieces of legislation that impact UC and UC Davis, along with information as to the bill's status;

Bills Adopted by the Legislature and Signed by the Governor

- **SB 250 (Wolk)** – Creates the Olive Oil Commission of California to conduct research for specified purposes and makes recommendations accordingly, and authorizes it to charge producers and annual assessment not exceeding a specified amount or the reasonable costs of implementation, and to expend those funds for purposes of implementing the bill.
- **SCR 62 (Jackson)** – This measure would encourage equitable and diverse gender representation on corporate boards, and urge that, within a 3-year period from January 2014 to December 2016, inclusive, every publicly held corporation in California with 9 or more director seats have a minimum of 3 women on its board, every publicly held corporation in California with 5 to 8 director seats have a minimum of 2 women on its board, and every publicly held corporation in California with fewer than 5 director seats have a minimum of one woman on its board. The 2012–2013 University of California, Davis study of California Women Business Leaders was a key component of this resolution.
- **SCR 70 (Galgiani)** – Honors the University of California, Davis' great achievement in earning the number one ranking in the world for teaching and research in the areas of agriculture and forestry.

Bills Pending Action on the Governor's Desk

- **SB 195 (Liu)** – SB 195 would establish three broad goals for higher education and that appropriate metrics be identified, defined and formally adopted to monitor progress toward achievement of the goals. The University has requested the Governor's signature on the bill.
- **SB 630 (Pavley)** – This bill would covers the implementation of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact that was jointly announced by the governors of CA and NV on May 14, 2013. UC Davis Government and Community Relations worked closely with our colleagues at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) to develop acceptable language on the creation of a bistrate science-based advisory council. Specifically, SB 630 states that the CA Natural Resources Secretary may enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to establish and operate a bistrate science-based advisory council in the Tahoe basin whose purpose is to promote and enhance the use of the best available scientific information on matters of interest to both states. The organization shall be nonregulatory, and shall focus on activities that will advance attainment of environmental thresholds, as provided in the compact. A majority of the governing body of that organization shall be comprised of scientists with expertise in disciplines pertinent to achieving and maintaining the goals of the compact.

Two-Year Bills

- **AB 609 (Nestande)** – AB 609 would enact the California Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act. Specifically, it would establish public access publication requirements for UC faculty and other researchers who receive state agency-funded research grants. UC supports this bill and UC Davis' Librarian, MacKenzie Smith, testified in support of AB 609 earlier this year. AB 609 is Senate Governmental Organization Committee, where it has been granted reconsideration.
- **AB 881 (Chesbro)** – This bill would, on and after January 1, 2015, increase the maximum annual assessment to \$0.07 per barrel of crude oil or petroleum products. The bill would also allow the assessment to cover the annual costs incurred by the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) on and after January 1, 2015, and until January 1, 2016. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2016, continue the assessment of \$0.07 per barrel of crude oil to cover the costs authorized under existing law. This bill would, until January 1, 2016, allow the administrator to transfer up to \$2,000,000 in funds from the Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fund to the Oil Spill Response Trust Fund, as described, to fund specified activities of the OWCN. This bill is a priority for UC Davis as it deals with OWCN's funding. This bill is currently in the Senate's inactive file.
- **AB 1154 (Gray)** – This bill would establish that the term for the Equine Medical Director is 2 years, and, for a person who is appointed as EMD on or after January 1, 2014, would limit the number of terms that a person may serve consecutively to 2 consecutive terms. The bill would state various legislative findings and declarations relating to the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at UC Davis. SVM and SGR have been monitoring this bill and will continue to do so. AB 1154 is currently held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

- **SB 8 (Yee)** – SB 8 seeks to prohibit the UC and CSU from increasing monetary compensation or approving payment of a bonus for any executive officer within two years of a fiscal year in which a) the amount of General Fund moneys appropriated to the segment is less than or equal to the amount appropriated in the preceding fiscal year, or b) the systemwide fees were increased from the previous year. This bill also places an arbitrary limit on compensation to an incoming executive officer in comparison to the compensation provided to the person that they are replacing. This bill is opposed by UC and is currently in Senate Education Committee.
- **SB 259 (Hancock)** – This bill would amend the Higher Education Employer Employee Relations Act (HEERA) to create collective bargaining rights for new classes of working students, including UC graduate student researchers (GSRs). This bill is being held in Senate Appropriations Committee with UC opposing it.
- **SB 502 (Block)** – SB 502 would authorize the University to employ informal competitive bidding for projects costing less than \$1 million. This is UC's only sponsored legislation for 2013 and is currently in the Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee.
- **SB 520 (Steinberg)** – This bill would establish the California Online Student Access Incentive Grant programs as three separate programs under the administration of UC, CSU and CCC, for each segment respectively, in consultation with their respective statewide academic senates. SB 520 is in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and as currently written is opposed by UC.
- **SCA 15 (Yee)** – SCA 15 would amend the CA State Constitution to require UC's retirement plan to be subject to the requirements of the CA Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPPRA) for all new employees. The bill is currently in Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committee with UC opposing.

For status updates on other bills of interest to UC and UC Davis, please go to the following link, or contact Adrian Lopez (adnlopez@ucdavis.edu)

<http://www.ucop.edu/state/legislation/search.php?results=1&q=&t=all&s=&p=5&l=5>

2014 Legislative Proposals

The California Legislature has adjourned for 2013 and will return on January 6, 2014 for regular business to be conducted in the 2nd year of the 2013-14 Legislative Session. As such, UCOP State Government Relations is currently in the process of determining whether there are issues that may require legislation sponsored by the University in 2014. If you are aware of any such issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at adnlopez@ucdavis.edu. The deadline to submit proposals is November 1st.

Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

- October 13 – Last day for the Governor to sign bills
- January 1 – Statutes take effect
- January 6 – Legislature reconvenes

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.