



## UC Davis State Government Relations Update March 31, 2015

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### Update on Bills

**AB 170 (Gatto)** passed out of the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee. The bill would prohibit the State Department of Public Health from both testing a newborn child and storing, retaining, or using a blood sample collected unless the parent or guardian has given fully informed consent. The bill would also authorize the parent or guardian, once the child is 18 years of age, to request that department destroy, not use for research purposes, or both, the blood sample. The University has concerns with the bill.

**AB 27 (Chavez)** passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill would request the University of California (UC) and require the California State University (CSU) to exempt from paying nonresident tuition a student or prospective student of their respective segments who is using, or intends to use, "GI Bill education benefits," as defined, while enrolled at that segment. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 147 (Dababneh)** passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill would require UC and other California higher education institutions, prior to euthanizing dogs or cats used in animal research, to first offer these animals to an animal adoption or rescue organization. UC opposes the bill.

**AB 174 (Gray)** was sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill would appropriate \$1.855 million for UC San Joaquin Valley PRIME expansion and \$1 million to UC for support of a two-year planning effort for the establishment of a separate traditional medical school at UC Merced. The University has no position on the bill.

**SB 42 (Liu)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill would replace CPEC with the California Commission on Higher Education Performance and Accountability, and recasts and revises its functions and responsibilities. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**SB 114 (Liu)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill would enact the Kindergarten-12 Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 to authorize an unspecified amount of state general obligation bonds to aid school districts, county superintendents of schools, county boards of education and charter schools to construct/modernize education facilities. This bill is critical as UC and UC Davis both have pressing needs in the area of capital outlay.

**SB 247 (Lara)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill would encourage UC and authorizes CSU, CCC, and school districts to establish on-campus Dream Centers to provide information to undocumented students about educational support services, including the Dream Act financial aid application. The University's position on the bill is pending. UC Davis students testified at the committee hearing highlighting what a great asset the UCD AB 540 and Undocumented Student Center has been to them.

**SB 125 (Hernandez)** passed out of the Senate Health Committee. The bill would reauthorize California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP). It would also expand UC CHBRP analyses to include essential health benefits and the impact on the California Health Benefit Exchange, and assessments of legislation impacting health insurance benefit design, cost sharing, premiums, and other related topics; and allows submittal of analyses to legislative policy/fiscal committees either within 60 days or according to a timeline agreed to by the Legislature and CHBRP. The University has a neutral position on the bill.

**SB 128 (Wolk)** passed out of the Senate Health Committee. The bill would enact the End of Life Option Act authorizing a qualified adult who is determined by his/her physician to be suffering from a terminal illness to request prescribed aid-in-dying medication. The University's position on the bill is pending.

Below is a list of all the bills SGR is tracking;

<http://www.ucop.edu/state-governmental-relations/legislation/search/index.php?results=1&q=&t=all&s=&p=5&l=7>

### **Controller Releases February Cash Update**

On March 10<sup>th</sup> State Controller Betty Yee released her monthly report of the state's cash balance, receipts, and disbursements made for February 2015. The report states that "February 2015 receipts totaled \$6.6 billion, beating estimates in the Governor's proposed 2015-16 budget by \$1 billion, or 18.3 percent, and reflecting an overall strengthening of the economy." The report is available at [http://www.sco.ca.gov/Files-ARD/CASH/fy1415\\_march.pdf](http://www.sco.ca.gov/Files-ARD/CASH/fy1415_march.pdf).

### **UC Day 2015**

University of California alumni and friends gathered at the state Capitol on March 10<sup>th</sup> for the university's biennial UC Day. Along with the UC Regents, UC President Janet Napolitano, and UC Chancellors, more than 170 advocates met with legislators, including legislative leadership, asking them to support UC's budget request for increased funding of \$100M, no arbitrary restrictions on nonresident enrollment and appropriate increases in state financial aid to ensure affordability for low and moderate income students and families. An article on UC Day, featuring UC Davis' GSA Chair Erica Vonasek, can be found here;

<http://universityofcalifornia.edu/news/supporters-visit-capitol-for-uc-day-2015>

UC Davis had 11 delegates for UC Day. The UC Davis delegation was split into two teams, which cumulatively met with 12 out of the 14 legislative offices in UC Davis' service area. Eight of the meetings were with legislators, while the remaining meetings were with staff. During the lunch program, President Napolitano and Chancellor Katehi recognized Senator Wolk for her Co-Chairmanship of the UC Legislative Roundtable. See the picture below:



**Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates**

- March 27<sup>th</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Legislature on Spring Recess
- April 6<sup>th</sup> – Legislature reconvenes
- April 28<sup>th</sup> – Grad Research Day
- May 18<sup>th</sup> – Bay Area Council's Annual Sacramento Day

### **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](mailto:adnlopez@ucdavis.edu) or by phone at (530) 752-9795.