



UC Davis State Government Relations Update February & March 2024

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In this Update:

- *Actions on UC Tracked Bills (Pages 1-2)*
- *Assembly Higher Education Committee Releases Report (Page 2)*
- *Joint hearing on Public Higher Education Coordination and Collaboration (Page 2)*
- *LAO Recommendations on UC 2024-25 Budget (Pages 2-3)*
- *Upcoming State Government Relations Deadlines, Events and Key Dates (Page 4)*
- *Questions or Need Assistance? (Page 4)*

Actions on UC Tracked Bills

AB 236 (Holden) – Health Care Coverage: Provider Directories – passed off the Assembly Floor. The bill requires a health plan or insurer to annually verify and delete inaccurate listings from its provider directories and requires a provider directory to be 60% accurate on 7/1/25, with increasing required percentage accuracy benchmarks to be met each year until the directories are 95% accurate on or before 7/1/28. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

AB 810 (Friedman) – Postsecondary Education: Hiring Practices: Academic, Athletic, and Administrative Appointments – passed off the Assembly Floor. The bill requests UC and requires CSU, CCC and independent institutions of higher education that receive state financial assistance, as part of the hiring process for an appointment to an academic, athletic, or administrative position, to have an applicant sign a release form that authorizes, in the event the applicant reaches the final stages of the application process, the release of information by the applicant's previous employers concerning any substantiated allegations of misconduct, and requires the signed release form to be used by the postsecondary educational institution to obtain that information. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

AB 1160 (Pacheco) – Protecting Students from Creditor Colleges Act – passed off the Assembly Floor. The bill prohibits an institution of higher education from taking specified actions, including charging a higher tuition or fee on the grounds that a student owes an institutional debt, and requests UC to report specified information regarding the number and dollar amount of institutional debts. The University’s position on the bill is pending.

AB 1575 (Irwin) – Public Postsecondary Education: Students Codes – passed off the Assembly Floor. The bill requires UC, CCC, CSU and College of Law, San Francisco to adopt a policy permitting a student to be represented by an adviser if the student receives a notification of an alleged violation of a public postsecondary educational institution's student code of conduct. The University's position on the bill is pending.

ACA 14 (Ortega) – University of California: Basic State Labor Standards – is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Labor Committee on March 13th. The University is opposed to this measure and the Chancellors, along with the UC Directors of Disabled Student Support Services, have sent in letters of opposition on the measure. SGR has also worked on securing opposition letters from state, regional and local chambers of commerce. This bill would require UC employees to have the right to, and be covered by, certain basic state labor standards as they apply to employees of the state and requires individuals who perform certain work for UC to have the right to the payment of a prevailing wage. The measure unfairly singles out the University of California by unilaterally applying public sector employment laws not just for its rank-and-file workers, but also for its students, researchers, faculty, and clinicians, thus creating unique challenges for the University's academic and healthcare missions. ACA 14 also needlessly limits our ability to efficiently (and cost-effectively) meet operational needs as they occur at our campuses and hospitals.

Assembly Higher Education Committee Releases Report

The Assembly Higher Education Committee released a report on Thursday February 1st entitled "*Call to Action: How Postsecondary Education Institutions Can Address Sex Discrimination and Provide Educational Justice on Campus.*" The report can be found on the Committee's webpage:

<https://ahed.assembly.ca.gov/media/3121>

The report makes numerous recommendations including limiting retreat rights for academic administrators, recasting adjudication procedures for victims of sexual harassment/assault and increasing hiring/recruitment transparency by requiring institutions to collect info on any previous findings of misconduct on the part of job applicants.

Joint hearing on Public Higher Education Coordination and Collaboration

On February 7th the Assembly Higher Education Committee and the Senate Education Committee held a joint informational hearing on the "*State of Public Higher Education Coordination and Collaboration.*" UC Provost Katherine Newman and Chair of the UC Academic Senate James Steintrager represented the University at the hearing. The agenda and handouts are available [here](#). An archive of the hearing is available [here](#).

LAO Recommendations on UC 2024-25 Budget

Every year, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) analyses the Governor's January budget introduction proposals and makes recommendations for legislative action. The LAO recently released their assessment and recommendations for [The 2024-25 Budget: University of California](#). The LAO recommends that:

1. The Legislature reject the Governor's proposal to defer UC's Compact funding from 2024-25

2. The Legislature reject the 2025-26 Compact funding for UC and hold UC flat from 2023-24 to 2025-26
3. That UC enrollment targets be held flat for 2024-25
4. That \$325 million in prior year one-time appropriations that remain unexpended be reverted
5. That the capital outlay projects for which UC received debt service funding in the Budget Act of 2023, which have not yet had bonds sold, have funding reverted

The prior year appropriations the LAO recommends be reverted are:

General Fund (In Millions)

Recent One-time Initiatives	Maximum Available Funds ^a
Campus-specific climate change initiatives	\$83.3
UC San Diego Scripps Reserve Vessel	34.8
UC Berkeley Local Public Affairs Grant Initiative	23.1
California Institutes for Science and Innovation	18.6
UC Davis Institute for Regenerative Cures	16.1
UC Los Angeles Latino Policy and Politics Institute	13.7
UC Riverside School of Medicine operations	13.6
K-14 Student Academic Preparation and Educational Partnerships	12.6
UC Los Angeles Ralph J. Bunche Center ^b	14.2
UC San Francisco Dyslexia Center ^c	13.2
UC-CSU Collaborative on Neurodiversity and Learning	8.8
UC Los Angeles Asian American and Pacific Islander Multimedia Textbook Project	7.9
Animal Shelter Assistance Act	7.1
Cancer research relating to firefighters	7.0
UC Berkeley School of Journalism Police Records Access Project	6.7
UC Institute of Transportation Studies	5.9
UC Riverside Survey of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans	5.4
Equal Opportunity Practices and professional development for UC faculty	5.0
UC Davis Equine Performance and Rehabilitation Center	5.0
UC San Diego Student Mental Health App	4.6
Plant-based and cultivated meat research	4.6
Climate Change Research and Entrepreneurship Grants	4.0
UC Los Angeles Institute on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy	3.2
UC San Diego Scripps Institute Fire Camera Mapping System	3.2
K-12 Subject Matter Projects in Learning Loss Mitigation	2.5
UC Merced Center on Food Resilience	1.3
Total	\$325.4
^a Reflects amount not spent or encumbered by campuses as of January 1, 2024.	
^b Reflects total amount of unencumbered funds from 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24.	
^c Reflects total amount of unencumbered funds from 2021-22 and 2022-23.	

These are concerning recommendations and ones which SGR will be actively advocating against.

Upcoming State Government Relations Deadlines, Events and Key Dates

Mar. 21 Spring Recess begins upon adjournment.

Mar. 29 Cesar Chavez Day observed.

Apr. 1 Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess.

Apr. 26 Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house.

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, Senior Director of Government Relations. He can be reached at adnlopez@ucdavis.edu or by phone at (530) 752-9795.