

UC Davis State Government Relations Update February 2022

Adrian Lopez Senior Director of Government Relations

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UC Tracked Legislation

UC Sponsored

SB 883 (Roth) extends the sunset date on the Umbilical Cord Blood Collection Program, run by UC Davis Health, from January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2027. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Health Committee.

SB 912 (Limon), co-sponsored by UC, requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy to cover biomarker testing, and expands the Medi-Cal schedule of benefits to include this coverage subject to federal financial participation and any necessary approvals. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Health Committee.

SB 960 (Skinner) eliminates the citizenship requirement to serve as a peace officer in California. The bill was introduced on February 9th.

SB 1299 (Min) extends the California State Summer School for Mathematics (COSMOS) program operated by UC until January 1, 2028 and increases application and program fees. The bill was introduced on Feb. 18th.

UC Supports

AB 2673 (Irwin) includes UC Natural Reserve System as a trustee agency for CEQA purposes in regard to specified natural resources and properties within its respective jurisdictions. The bill was introduced on Feb. 18th.

SB 880 (Laird) extends indefinitely existing law requirements qualifying an individual for installing and maintaining devices or implementing methods taught in a water diversion instructional course administered by UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE), and requiring UCCE and the State Water Resources Control Board to develop the course curriculum and proficiency test. The University issued a support position letter on Feb. 25th. The Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee is scheduled to hear the bill on March 8th.

Other High Priority Legislation

AB 75 (O'Donnell) creates the Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2022 as a state general obligation bond act that would provide \$12 billion to construct and modernize education facilities. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 84 (Assembly Budget Committee) passed out of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee. The bill makes various statutory changes to COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave provisions that expired on September 30, 2021. The University's position on the bill is pending.

AB 1130 (Wood) establishes the Office of Health Care Affordability to analyze the health care market for cost trends and drivers of spending, develop data-informed policies for lowering health care costs for consumers, set and enforce cost targets, and create a state strategy for controlling the cost of health care and ensuring affordability for consumers and purchasers. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Health Committee.

AB 1602 (McCarty) establishes the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022, and applies certain provisions of the California Educational Facilities Authority Act to UC and CSU for purposes of housing projects. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1624 (Ting) makes appropriations for the support of state government for the current fiscal year. Budget Act of 2022. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Budget Committee.

AB 1712 (Medina) requires UC, CSU, and CCC to convene a campus climate and sexual misconduct survey workgroup, and requests UC and requires CSU and CCC to administer the survey to students every 3 years and report the results to their governing boards. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1746 (Medina) enacts the Cal Grant Reform Act, which revises and recasts the existing Cal Grant Program into a new Cal Grant Program, and requests UC and requires CSU to adopt a statement of policy on how their institutional aid programs address basic needs and how these institutional funds are prioritized for disbursement. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1751 (Daly) extends disputable presumption that an injury defined for an employee to include illness or death resulting from COVID-19 until 1/1/25, arose out of and in the course of employment and is compensable for specified dates of injury. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Insurance Committee.

AB 1764 (Medina) requires UC, CSU, and CCC to collect data on student housing insecurity at each of their campuses. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1796 (Choi) requests UC and requires CSU to require their campuses to grant students up to five years to reenroll in their baccalaureate degree program after withdrawing. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 1894 (Rivas) requires the State Department of Health Care Services to create an advisory group to evaluate the increasing financial challenges faced by designated public hospital systems and would require the department to work with designated public hospitals on potential financing strategies to stabilize their financing. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Health Committee.

AB 2080 (Wood) requires a medical group, hospital or hospital system, health care service plan, health insurer, or pharmacy benefit manager to provide written notice to the Attorney General at least 90 days before entering an agreement to make a specified material change with a value of \$5M or more. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Health Committee.

AB 2098 (Low) designates the dissemination or promotion of misinformation or disinformation related to the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, or "COVID-19," as unprofessional conduct and requires the Medical Board of California to consider specified factors prior to bringing a disciplinary action against a physician and surgeon. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

AB 2187 (Rivas) authorizes the establishment and maintenance of the California Computer Science Project as a 10th subject matter project. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 2222 (Reyes) establishes the Golden State Social Opportunities Program to provide grants to students who are enrolled in an in-state postgraduate program from a UC or CSU campus or an independent institution of higher education, if the student commits to working in a California-based nonprofit eligible setting for their required post degree hours of supervised experience. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

AB 2255 (Medina) is a spot bill that will make changes to existing law that requires the UC Regents to provide a copy of specified provisions related to the meetings of the regents and a copy of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act to each regent upon that regent's appointment to the board or assumption of the office of regent. The bill was introduced on Feb. 16th.

AB 2387 (Garcia) enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7.430B to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs. The bill was introduced on Feb. 17th.

AB 2497 (Reyes) requires a higher education employer, upon notification by an exclusive representative, to distribute membership authorization forms, as defined, to each higher education employee as part of the new employee orientation process, and to collect and return the finished membership authorization forms to the exclusive representative. The bill was introduced on Feb. 17th.

AB 2624 (Kalra) requires each campus of the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests each campus of the University of California, to prominently display the estimated costs for each course of all required course materials, and fees directly related to those materials, for no less than 75% of the total number of courses on the online campus schedule. The bill was introduced on February 18th.

AB 2815 (Berman) requires a county, for a primary or special election conducted as an all-mailed ballot election or otherwise, to provide an additional vote by mail ballot drop-off location on the main campus of each California State University within the jurisdiction and, upon request, each University of California campus within the jurisdiction. The bill was introduced on February 18th.

SB 114 (Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee) was signed by the Governor. The bill makes various statutory changes to COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave provisions that expired on September 30, 2021.

SB 840 (Mitchell) makes appropriations for the support of state government for the current fiscal year. Budget Act of 2022. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee.

SB 886 (Wiener) exempts from CEQA a student or faculty and staff housing project carried out by UC, CSU, and CCC on real property they own if the project meets certain requirements and is not located on certain sites, and does not require demolition of specified housing or a historic structure. The bill was amended with current language on Feb. 22nd.

SB 964 (Wiener) requests UC and requires CSU and CCC to develop 2 accelerated programs of study related to degrees in social work, requests UC to contract with the Department of Health Care Access to prepare a behavioral health workforce landscape analysis report for the Legislature, and provides for various measures to expand the behavioral health workforce. The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Health Committee.

SB 1141 (Limon) reduces, for purposes of eligibility for the exemption from paying nonresident tuition, the total years of full-time attendance in certain California schools, the years of full-time high school

coursework in California, and the total years of attendance in California elementary and secondary schools required from 3 or more years to 2 or more years. The bill was introduced on Feb. 16th.

SB 1160 (Durazo) removes the provision exempting students, other than persons excluded from the term immigrant, from nonresident tuition, therefore making those students eligible for the exemption from nonresident tuition if they meet the standard requirements. The bill was introduced on February 17th.

SB 1364 (Durazo) makes it unlawful for any vendor to accept payment above a specified threshold from UC pursuant to a contract for prescribed services if they are performing services or supplying the university with employees to perform services who are paid less than the higher of the total compensation rate specified in the vendor's contract with the university or as required by university policy. The bill was introduced on Feb. 18th.

LAO's Report on Major UC Budget Proposals

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released its report on "The 2022-23 Budget: Analysis of Major UC Proposals" today. "The Governor proposes providing UC a \$201 million (5 percent) General Fund base increase in 2022-23. Coupled with additional tuition revenue (an estimated \$45 million), UC would have \$246 million available to cover core operating cost increases. We recommend the Legislature move away from providing UC arbitrary base increases and instead tie augmentations to anticipated cost increases." The report is available here.

Upcoming State Government Relations Deadlines, Events and Key Dates

March 9 – The Senate Health Committee and the Senate Special Committee on Pandemic Emergency Response is scheduled to hold a joint hearing on "The Long Haul: Preparing for the Impacts of Long Covid," at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Chambers. There will be UC presenters.

April 7-Spring Recess begins upon adjournment.

April 18–Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess.

April 29—Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal Committees fiscal bills introduced in their house.

May 6—Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the floor non-fiscal bills introduced in their house.

May 13-Last day for policy committees to meet prior to May 31.

May 20—Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor 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.