



## UC Davis State Government Relations Update July 2023

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### **Actions on UC Tracked Bills**

**AB 255 (Alanis)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires CCC and CSU and requests UC to grant priority for registration for enrollment to first responders. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 299 (Holden)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill establishes civil liability, beginning 1/1/25, for an educational institution, which the bill would define as a public or private institution of higher education in the state, if it has direct involvement in, or knew or should have known of, the hazing practices of an organization to which a student is seeking membership and the organization is affiliated with the educational institution at the time of the alleged hazing incident. SGR Legislative Director Tyler Aguilar testified that the University does not have a position on the bill but will continue to work with the author on addressing our remaining concerns.

**AB 322 (Mathis)** passed out of the Senate Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill requires CCC, CSU, and requests that UC include within first-year student and transfer student orientations the location and contact information of the campus representative for students who are veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and members of the California State and National Guards. The University has a neutral position on the bill.

**AB 447 (Arambula)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill authorizes CSU and requests UC to establish and maintain inclusive college programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities at 4-year public postsecondary educational institutions. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 461 (Ramos)** passed out of the Senate Health Committee. The bill requires CCC and CSU and requests UC to provide information about the use and location of fentanyl test strips as part of established campus orientations and to notify students of the presence and location of fentanyl test strips. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 504 (Reyes)** passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill provides that it shall not be unlawful or a cause for discipline or other adverse action against a public employee who refuses to enter property that is the site of a primary labor dispute, perform work for a public employer involved in a primary labor dispute, or go through or work behind any primary picket line, and prohibits a public employer from directing a public employee to take those actions. The University opposes this measure.

**AB 576 (Weber)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires the State Department of Health Care Services to review and update Medi-Cal coverage policies for medication abortion to align with current evidence-based clinical guidelines. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 607 (Kalra)** passed out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill requires CCC and CSU campuses and requests UC campuses 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 course schedule. SGR Legislative Director Tyler Aguilar testified that the University does not have a position on the bill but will continue to work with the author.

**AB 624 (Grayson)** passed out of the Senate Human Services Committee. The bill requests UC and requires CSU, and private higher education institutions to cover the costs of diagnostic assessments for learning disabilities as proof for academic accommodations for any student who receives student financial aid or who is eligible for financial assistance from the institution's health or disability center. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 716 (Boerner)** passed out of the Senate Health Committee. The bill requires a health care service plan contract or a health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after 1/1/24, to require an enrollee or insured who receives covered services from a noncontracting ground ambulance provider to pay no more than the same cost-sharing amount that the enrollee or insured would pay for the same covered services received from a contracting ground ambulance provider. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 749 (Irwin)** passed out of the Senate Governmental Organization Committee. The bill requires state agencies to implement Zero Trust architecture for all data, hardware, software, internal systems, and essential third-party software and prioritize the use of solutions that comply with federal guidelines, programs, and frameworks including, at a minimum, multifactor authentication for access to all systems and data, enterprise endpoint detection and response solutions, and robust logging practices. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 789 (Berman)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires, as part of the criteria to be a qualifying institution under the Cal Grant Program, an institution, by the start of the 2024-25 academic year, to comply with various requirements regarding "satisfactory academic progress" standards used to determine if a student qualifies for a Cal Grant and to develop and implement

policies defining "satisfactory academic progress" in a manner that is consistent with the federal standards. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 888 (Cervantes)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill, contingent upon an appropriation of funds by the Legislature, provides Cal Grant award eligibility to a noncitizen who has filed a designated application for asylum and has a valid employment authorization document and social security number. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 904 (Calderon)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires a health care service plan or health insurer to develop a maternal and infant health equity program that addresses racial health disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes through the use of doulas. The University is not taking a position on the bill.

**AB 907 (Lowenthal)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy to cover prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) prescribed or ordered by the treating physician and surgeon. The University is not taking a position on the bill.

**AB 1007 (Ortega)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to submit a proposed regulation requiring a health facility to evacuate or remove plume to the extent technologically feasible through the use of a plume scavenging system in all settings that employ techniques that involve the creation of plume. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1138 (Weber)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires UC, CSU, CCC and independent postsecondary institutions, as a condition of receiving state funds for student financial assistance, to provide to students free transportation to and from a local Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) or Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) exam center for a qualified health care provider to administer the sexual assault forensic medical evidence kit. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1286 (Haney)** passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill makes various changes to the Pharmacy Law regarding pharmacy operations, staffing, and practices. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1307 (Wicks)** passed out of the Senate Housing Committee. The bill specifies that the effects of noise generated by project occupants and their guests on human beings is not a significant effect on the environment for purposes of CEQA and specifies that institutions of public higher education, in an EIR for a residential or mixed-use housing project, are not required to consider alternatives to the location of the proposed project if certain requirements are met. The University has a **support** position on the bill.

**AB 1524 (Lowenthal)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires CCC and CSU and requests UC, independent institutions of higher education, and private postsecondary educational institutions, to stock an adequate supply of drug testing devices and antitampering devices, available and accessible, free-of-charge, at no fewer than one designated and accessible location on each

campus and post a notice on these requirements in prominent and conspicuous location in all women's and men's restrooms. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1677 (McKinnor)** was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file. The bill requires the UC Berkeley Labor Center, in recognition of the need to recruit and retain skilled state scientists, to undertake a study of existing salary structure and issues currently impacting horizontal and vertical salary relationships as compared to historical relationships, and to provide recommendations for alternative salary models. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**AB 1707 (Pacheco)** passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill prohibits a healing arts board from denying an application for a license or imposing discipline upon a licensee solely on the basis of a civil judgment, criminal conviction, or disciplinary action in another state based on the application of another state's law that interferes with a person's right to receive care that would be lawful in this state, and prohibits a health facility from denying staff privileges to, removing from medical staff, or restricting the staff privileges of a licensed health professional on the same basis. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**SB 345 (Skinner)** passed out of the Assembly Public Safety Committee. The bill provides various provider protections for the performance of a legally protected health care activity, including reproductive or gender-affirming health care services. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**SB 487 (Atkins)** passed out of the Assembly Judiciary Committee. The bill declares another state's law for civil action against a person or entity who receives or seeks, performs, provides, or induces, or aids or abets the performance of an abortion, or who attempts or intends to engage in those actions, to be contrary to the public policy of this state, and prohibits a civil judgment and application of that law to a case or controversy heard in state court. The University has a support position on this measure.

**SB 496 (Limon)** passed out of the Assembly Health Committee. The bill, co-sponsored by UC, requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy, and Medi Cal, to cover medically necessary biomarker testing, as prescribed, including whole genome sequencing, for purposes of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of a disease or condition if the test is supported by medical and scientific evidence. The University has a support position on this measure.

**SB 786 (Portantino)** passed out of the Assembly Health Committee. The bill prohibits a pharmacy benefit manager from discriminating against a covered entity or its pharmacy in connection with dispensing a drug subject to federal pricing requirements, pursuant to the 340B discount drug purchasing program, or preventing a covered entity from retaining the benefit of discounted pricing for those drugs. The University has a support position on this bill.

**SB 815 (Roth)** passed out of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee. The bill makes various changes to the operations of the Medical Board of California stemming from the joint sunset review oversight of the board including clarifying a 4-month minimum general requirement in a postgraduate training program for a physician and surgeon license applicant. The University's position on the bill is pending.

**SCR 21 (Archuleta)** was adopted by the Assembly Transportation Committee. The measure urges the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES) to prioritize renewable, clean hydrogen for California. The University's position on the bill is pending.

### **2023-24 Budget Act**

On July 10<sup>th</sup> Governor Newsom signed AB 102 (Ting), aka Budget Bill Junior. The bill amended the Budget Act of 2023-24. In addition, the Governor has also signed the budget trailer bills, including SB 117 (Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee), the higher education budget trailer bill and AB 119, the health budget trailer bill that contains the MCO tax.

Under the language in AB 102, the University of California will receive the following:

#### **University of California Budget**

The total budget for the University of California remained at \$4.8 billion in AB 102, with a small growth in both ongoing and one-time funding over the June 15 budget act, SB 101. This budget provides the University with \$329.2 million in new ongoing funding and \$142.5 million in one-time funding. The budget retains a separate line item for UC ANR. Below is a detailed accounting of the new funding for the University.

#### **2023-24 New Funding for the University of California**

##### **Ongoing – \$329.2 million in new ongoing funding**

- \$215.5 million for a 5% base budget adjustment. \$4.8 million of this amount is for UC ANR.
- \$30 million for replacing 902 nonresidents with residents at UC Berkeley, UCLA, and UC San Diego.
- \$33.5 million for approved higher education student housing grant program projects (this reflects an increase of \$3.5 million from SB 101 and eliminates the mention of debt service).
- \$33.3 million the UC Merced and UC Riverside campus expansion projects, as well as the UC Berkeley Clean Energy Campus project.
- \$2 million for UC Riverside School of Medicine operations.
- \$1.5 million for support for students with disabilities.
- \$1 million for student mental health resources (total funding \$21.3 million).
- \$800,000 for student basic needs and food security (total funding \$15.8 million).
- \$200,000 for rapid rehousing efforts (total funding \$3.7 million).
- \$6.5 million for debt service of the UC Riverside School of Medicine building.
- \$4.85 million for Prop 56 true-up to \$40 million for GME (total State funding \$10.9 million).

##### **One-Time – \$142.5 million in one-time funding**

- \$100 million for the California Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy at UCLA.
- \$6.87 million for the Police Records Access Project at UC Berkeley.
- \$7 million for research into cancer in firefighters.
- \$5 million for the UC Davis Equine Performance and Rehabilitation Center.
- \$5 million for the Ralph J. Bunche Center. It is the intent of the legislature to provide \$3 million ongoing to the Ralph J. Bunche Center beginning in 2024-25.
- \$4 million for the Cal Bridge Initiative.

- \$3 million for the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego for the development of a Coastal Ocean Pollution Pathogen Predictions model for the Tijuana River Estuary and Border Beaches. (Section 19.568)
- \$2 million for UC Global Entrepreneurship Program for in-residence projects for foreign-born entrepreneurs, soon-to-graduate, and recently graduated students.
- \$2 million for Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego for the California Coastal Mapping Program. (Section 19.568)
- \$2 million for the UCLA Center for Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy. (Section 19.568)
- \$2 million for UC ANR fire advisors.
- \$1.3 million for UC ANR University of California Nutrition Policy Institute. This is the second of four years of funding.
- \$1 million for UC Irvine to support Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Able Leaders for Water Program. (Section 19.568)
- \$1 million for UC Berkeley School of Education for the Race Education and Community Healing (REACH) Network. (Section 19.568)
- \$250,000 for UC Merced Labor Center to study oil and gas industry change on local services and jobs.
- \$125,000 for UCLA expansion of the UC/CSU Collaborative Neurodiversity and Learning to create the Collaborative Center for Public Engagement and Education. (Section 19.568)

### **Funding Reversion**

AB 102 reverts \$389 million in the higher education student housing grant program funds UC previously received.

### **Budget Bill Language**

Budget Act of 2023, AB 102, contains budget bill language for UC appropriations that are new additions over the Budget Act of 2022. The most notable items of budget bill language are:

- Reporting language to the Legislature by December 31, 2024, on the five percent base budget net expenditure increases, in categories as identified in the annual Budget for Current Operations report to the Regents.
- Enrollment language specifying growth of 7,800 California undergraduates for 2023-24.
- Language specifying UC may lose funding per student for each student below the enrollment target.
- Language establishing targets for future enrollment from a 2021-22 baseline to 2023-24.
- Reporting language on the number of campuses that have data sharing agreements with counties on the number of students potentially eligible for Cal Fresh benefits, or the efforts underway to enact such an agreement.
- Reporting language on the number of students who first started receiving CalFresh benefits in the preceding year and total number of students receiving Cal Fresh benefits the preceding year.
- Reporting language on student mental health services, including demographic data and expenditures by fund type.
- Requirement that the funding for supporting students with disabilities be used for professional staff.

## **Budget Trailer Bills**

The budget trailer bills have been signed by the Governor, which are the following measures:

Higher education budget trailer bill – [SB 117](#)

Health budget trailer bill – [AB 118](#)

MCO tax trailer bill – [AB 119](#)

**The higher education budget trailer bill** (SB 117) contains several items important to the University of California, including:

1. \$200 million for the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022, a zero-interest revolving loan fund with UC and CSU eligible for \$150 million of the total.
2. 4-year extension of SB 77 financial aid to certain undocumented students
3. Change to Middle Class Scholarship program to allow basic needs and rapid rehousing emergency assistance to be considered part of the student's self-help level, and an emergency valve when the student's financial aid exceeds the federally allowed maximum.
4. Change to Middle Class Scholarship program beginning in 2024-25 to exempt institutional scholarships from MCS calculation up to the self-help level, just as private scholarships are currently treated.
5. Shifts UC's previously approved Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program projects to UC's institutional bond funds.
6. Directs UC to finance both the UCR intersegmental project and UCM intersegmental project with revenue bond funding.

**The Health budget trailer bill** (AB 118) includes several items important to the University of California, including:

1. \$75 million annually from 2024-25 to 2029-30 from the MCO tax, subject to appropriation, for University of California for graduate medical education (GME), to expand graduate medical education programs, in order to achieve the goal of increasing the number of primary care and specialty care physicians in the state based on demonstrated workforce needs and priorities.
2. Reverts from 2022-23 \$26 million for University and College Behavioral Health Workforce grants (grants are zeroed out).
3. Appropriates \$52 million for University and College Behavioral Health Workforce grants for 2023-24.
4. Appropriates \$30 million for Masters in Social Work slots at public universities and colleges.
5. Appropriates \$15 million for Song-Brown Program Nurses.
6. Appropriates \$57.5 million from 2024–25 fiscal year and 2025–26 fiscal year for Community Health Workers Initiative Grants.
7. Provides Department of Finance authority to provide up to \$150 million for distressed hospital relief.

## **Other Funding Items of Interest:**

- \$200 million for the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022, with \$150 million of this amount available to UC and CSU.
- Natural Resources Agency - \$1.1 million to UC Davis for the Tahoe Environmental Research Center for the Hypolimnetic Oxygenation Pilot Project to Revitalize Clear Lake.

- \$2.8 million for the California Medicine Scholars Program, funded through the Department of Health Care Access and Information.
- \$20 million to the County of Merced for flood relief to the community of Planada, including assistance to individuals, households, and the community.

#### **Upcoming State Government Relations Deadlines, Events and Key Dates**

**July 14** – Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills. Summer Recess begins upon adjournment, provided the Budget Bill has been passed.

**August 14** – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.

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