

California Student Aid Commission
Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee

Item 5

(Information Item)

Update on state and federal legislation

SUMMARY:

This item provides an update on 2023 state and federal legislation most relevant to the programs and policy priorities of the California Student Aid Commission (Commission).

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information item; no action is required.

BACKGROUND:

The 2023 legislative session concluded on September 14, giving Governor Newsom until October 14 to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature. In 2023, the Commission sponsored AB 1400 (Bryan), co-sponsored AB 1540 (Mike Fong) with the Office of Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis and supported eight other bills. Commission staff also tracked and engaged on legislation with direct or indirect impact to Commission operations and programs.

Both AB 1400 and AB 1540, as well as three other bills supported by the Commission, were signed into law by Governor Newsom. These five chaptered bills will provide financial assistance to California community college students who transfer to out-of-state Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as well as immigrant students at California public universities; streamline the financial aid process for immigrant students; establish resource centers for high school immigrant students; and improve the availability of data about CalFresh recipients in colleges and universities.

The “State Legislative Bill Matrix” and “Summary of Priority Tracked Legislation” attachments provide a summary and update on the status of tracked state legislation.

At the time that this document was drafted, the 2024 federal appropriations package was still under negotiation. As a result, President Biden signed into law H.R. 5860, a temporary spending bill (referred to as a “continuing resolution”), to fund the federal government through November 17, 2023, to avoid a government shutdown.

Commission staff will provide updates on the federal appropriations process, key federal legislation, and policies related to the Farm Bill Reauthorization, Pell Grants, federal student loan repayment/forgiveness, and the new gainful employment rule.

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RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):

Alex Zucco, State and Federal Policy Manager
Policy and Public Affairs Division

Jake Brymner, Deputy Director
Policy and Public Affairs Division

ATTACHMENT(S):

State Legislative Bill Matrix

Summary of Priority Tracked Legislation

Update on State and Federal Legislation Presentation Presented on November 29, 2023