



# Legislative Update

April 29, 2019

## INTRODUCTION

The California Federation of Teachers (CFT) was successful in securing the passage of a number of our sponsored and co-sponsored bills out of their first policy committees. Those bills address priority issues for the CFT, including increasing funding for schools, ensuring accountability for charter schools and providing support for community college and University of California faculty. Below is a summary of the sponsored and co-sponsored bills that CFT recently helped pass out of committees.

## CFT-SPONSORED AND CO-SPONSORED BILLS

### Increase Base Funding for K-12 Schools

[Assembly Bill 39](#) (*Muratsuchi, D-Torrance*) would establish new, higher funding targets under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and bring California up to the national average of adjusted per pupil funding. AB 39 would raise the base grant to school districts by \$35 billion, or 60%, starting in the 2020-21 fiscal year. This increase in the base grant would in turn increase the supplemental and concentration grant amounts proportionally per current law.

*AB 39 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 5-1 vote on April 10, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

### Early Childhood Education: Funding, Access and Standards

[Assembly Bill 123](#) (*McCarty, D-Sacramento*) would expand access to full-day, full-year preschool for all 4-year-olds who live in a neighborhood where there are more than 70% of students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. In addition, AB 123 would ensure that all 3-year-olds living in poverty receive two years of high-quality preschool. AB 123 also would raise reimbursement rates with the intent that early childhood educators would see increases in their salaries. In addition, AB 123 would require all new early childhood lead teachers have a Bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field by 2028. However, lead teachers employed prior to the enactment of the bill would be exempt from this requirement. Finally, AB 123 would provide scholarships for current lead teachers and paraprofessionals who choose to earn degrees in majors related to early childhood education and in turn earn higher salaries.

*AB 123 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 5-0-2 vote on April 24, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Childcare Local Planning Councils**

[Assembly Bill 124](#) (McCarty, D-Sacramento) would require local planning councils to provide information to cities and counties regarding facility needs for early childhood education, including, but not limited to, childcare and preschool, in their jurisdictions.

*AB 124 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a consent vote on April 24, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Early Childhood Education Reimbursement Rates**

[Assembly Bill 125](#) (McCarty, D-Sacramento) would require the Superintendent to implement a reimbursement system plan that establishes reasonable standards and assigned reimbursement rates that would vary with additional factors, including a quality adjustment factor to address the cost of staffing ratios. AB 125 would also require the reimbursement system plan, including methodology, standards, county rate targets and total statewide funding amounts necessary to reach annual rate targets for all agencies to be annually submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on or before November 10<sup>th</sup>. The bill would require the plan to include a formula for annually adjusting reimbursement rates.

*AB 125 passed out of the Assembly Human Services Committee with a 7-0-1 vote on April 9, 2019. Subsequently, the bill passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 7-0 vote on April 24, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Part-Time Faculty Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program**

[Assembly Bill 463](#) (Cervantes, D-Riverside) would require employers to provide annually to part-time community college faculty a letter verifying employment. AB 463 would also require employers to provide part-time community college faculty during orientation, or upon hiring, detailed information on what they must do to qualify for the Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF). Finally, AB 463 would factor in part-time faculty preparation time and office hours in the calculation for qualifying for the PSLF Program.

*AB 463 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with an 11-1 vote on March 19, 2019. Subsequently, the bill moved to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and was placed on suspense.*

## **Paid Maternity Leave for K-14 Certificated and Classified Employees**

[Assembly Bill 500](#) (Gonzalez, D-San Diego) would require K-14 districts to provide certificated and classified employees a paid leave when an employee is required to be absent for a length of time to be determined by the employee and their doctor for a minimum of six weeks for pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth and recovery.

*AB 500 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with an 11-1 vote on March 19, 2019. Subsequently, the bill passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 5-1 vote on April 10, 2019. Subsequently, the bill moved to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and was placed on suspense.*

## **Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE)**

[Assembly Bill 843](#) (*Rodriguez, D-Pomona*) would repeal loan assumption benefits that rely on API rankings, and instead provide additional loan assumption benefits of an unspecified amount to a person who holds a credential appropriate for teaching and who teaches, mathematics, science, special education, bilingual education or career technical education in a school district that is determined to be in need of differentiated assistance beginning in 2020-21.

*AB 843 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with a 12-0 vote on April 2, 2019. Subsequently, the bill moved to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and was placed on suspense.*

## **Increase Allowable Community College Part-Time Faculty Load to 85%**

[Assembly Bill 897](#) (*Medina, D-Riverside*) would raise the community college part-time faculty workload maximum from 67% to 85%. AB 897 would also clean up part-time faculty job security language that was being misinterpreted by some districts.

*AB 897 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with an 11-0-1 vote on April 2, 2019. Subsequently, the bill moved to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and was placed on suspense.*

## **Community Colleges: Student Equity Plans**

[Assembly Bill 943](#) (*Chiu, D-San Francisco*) would authorize the use of funding for the Student Equity and Achievement Program, up to \$25,000 of apportionment funds per campus, to provide emergency student financial assistance to eligible students to overcome unforeseen financial challenges that would directly impact a student's ability to persist in their course of study if the emergency student financial assistance is included in an institution's plan for interventions to students.

*AB 943 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with an 11-0-1 vote on April 2, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Community College Districts: Governing Board Elections**

[Assembly Bill 1150](#) (*Gloria, D-San Diego*) would require a candidate for election as a member of the governing board of the San Diego Community College District and the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District to submit at least 100 valid signatures to qualify for the ballot.

*AB 1150 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with a 10-0-2 vote on April 2, 2019. Subsequently, the bill passed out of the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee with a 6-1-0 vote on April 10, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Mandated Child Abuse Employee Training**

[Assembly Bill 1153](#) (*Wicks, D-Oakland*) would establish the Child Abuse Reporting Training Act of 2020 which would require each governing board of a community college to 1.) annually train, using an online training module, employees and administrators of the district who are mandated reporters on the reporting requirements; 2.) develop a process for those persons to provide proof of completing this training within 6 weeks of each academic year or within 6 weeks of that person's employment; and 3.) develop a process to identify students who are minors enrolled in classes at a community college district and provide that information only to faculty members and other employees who are mandated reporters.

*AB 1153 passed out of the Assembly Higher Education Committee with an 11-0 vote on April 23, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Classified Employee Probationary Period**

[Assembly Bill 1353](#) (*Wicks, D-Oakland*) would shorten the maximum length of a prescribed period of probation from not exceeding one year to not exceeding 6 months or 130 days of paid service, whichever is longer. In addition, AB 1353 would provide that, to the extent these provisions conflict with a collective bargaining agreement entered into before January 1, 2020, these provisions shall not apply until the expiration or renewal of that agreement.

*AB 1353 passed out of the Assembly Public Employment and Retirement Committee with a 5-2 vote on April 24, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Floor for a vote.*

## **Charter School Authorization**

[Assembly Bill 1505](#) (*O'Donnell, D-Long Beach*) would address a number of charter school policy issues, including the following: 1.) repeal the provision authorizing the State Board of Education to approve a petition to establish a charter school; 2.) authorize a county board of education to deny a charter petition for the establishment of a new charter school if it makes a factual finding that the charter school would have a negative financial, academic or facilities impact on neighborhood public schools, a school district or a county office of education; 3.) authorize the governing board of a school district to deny a charter petition for the establishment of a new charter school if it makes a factual finding that the charter school would have a negative financial, academic or facilities impact on neighborhood public schools of the school district; 4.) require charter school teachers to hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit or other document required by the teacher's certificated assignment; 5.) provide that a renewal of a charter be granted for a period of between 2 to 5 years; and 6.) delete the provision related to pupil academic achievement as the most important factor in determining whether to revoke a charter.

*AB 1505 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 4-1-1 vote on April 10, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Charter School Cap**

[Assembly Bill 1506](#) (*McCarty, D-Sacramento*) would establish a cap on charter schools permitted to operate in the state of California. The total number of charter schools authorized by a school district, county office of education or the state shall not increase above the actual number that are operating on January 1, 2020.

*AB 1506 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 4-1-1 vote on April 10, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

## **Charter School Location**

[Assembly Bill 1507](#) (*Smith, D-Santa Clarita*) would close a loophole in current law which allows a charter school to operate outside of its authorizing district. The bill would end the practice of local school districts being forced to accept a charter school in their district if it was authorized by a different school district.

*AB 1507 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee with a 4-1-1 vote on April 10, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Floor for a vote.*

## **University of California (UC) Retirement Plans: Asset Managers: Contracts**

[Senate Bill 715](#) (*Galgiani, D-Stockton*) would have prohibited the UC from entering into a contract for services with an asset manager for a defined contribution plan if that plan is a stand-alone optional plan.

*SB 715 was held in the Senate Education Committee with a 2-4-1 vote on April 24, 2019. Reconsideration was granted.*

## **Charter School Moratorium**

[Senate Bill 756](#) (*Durazo, D-Los Angeles*) would express the intent of the legislature to enact legislation containing specified policies relating to charter schools on or before January 1, 2020, and would prohibit the approval of a petition for the establishment of a new charter school until June 30, 2024 unless those specified policies are enacted. In addition, SB 756 would require, during the 2023-24 school year, the Legislative Analyst's Office to publicly issue a report relating to the effects of the moratorium.

*SB 756 passed out of the Senate Education Committee with a 4-3 vote on April 24, 2019. The bill now moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

## **University Council-American Federation of Teachers (UC-AFT) Unit 17 (Librarians)**

[Senate Concurrent Resolution \(SCR\) 29](#) (*Leyva, D-Chino*) would commend the University Council-American Federation of Teachers librarians represented by the UC-AFT for their contributions to the University of California.

*SCR 29 passed off of the Senate Floor with a 30-0-8 vote on April 4, 2019. The bill now moves to the Assembly Floor.*

## **Conclusion**

The California Federation of Teachers continues to advocate for the interests of its members in Sacramento on policy issues that impact them. Continued member advocacy on these issues both in Sacramento and at home is critical to the successful passage of legislation that supports our members and the students and communities they serve.

### **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

**Ron Rapp** Legislative Director [rrapp@cft.org](mailto:rrapp@cft.org)  
**Tristan Brown** Legislative Representative [tbrown@cft.org](mailto:tbrown@cft.org)  
**Bryan Ha** Legislative Representative [bha@cft.org](mailto:bha@cft.org)  
**Telephone** (916) 446-2788