



Legislative Update

September 2023



VPLA Update

Hello everyone! As the 2023-24 legislative cycle wraps up, we are making the final push to the governor and preparing next year's advocacy. Delegate assemblies are starting to meet, we are planning grassroots advocacy, and recruiting student advocates to join regional Legislative Affairs Committees. If there's anything you'd like to see included in these newsletters, please send your feedback to vpla@ssccc.org!

Chanelle Win (Vice President of Legislative Affairs)

Legislative Stories Campaign

The SSCCC launched the legislative stories campaign to collect student-lived stories for our legislative advocacy efforts and social media purposes. This will help us advocate effectively for actual issues students are facing, instead of basing them on statistics. In times of urgency and in the fast-paced environment of the capitol, we want to ensure students' voices are still at the table. This will help us come up with legislation that is truly student centered and backed up with lived stories. The form has a video or a text entry option that you can choose from to submit your responses. Any entry will be automatically placed for a chance to win a \$25 dollar gift card so run to them!

For more information or accommodation, please contact VPLA Chanelle Win at vpla@ssccc.org



Transfer Efforts and AB 1291

In recent years, multiple efforts to streamline and improve the transfer process have emerged. One thing everybody agrees on is that transfer should be easy and accessible. Asm. Kevin McCarty proposed new legislation, [AB 1291](#), in an attempt to create a pilot program to give priority admission to UC campuses for students with Associate Degree in Transfer. SSCCC is concerned about 1) the lack of transfer admission guarantees with the ADT program, 2) the phase in progress of UC campuses, 3) taking a piecemeal approach. AB 1291 is currently on the governor's desk right now. We encourage everyone to call the governor at 916-445-2841 and request a veto so that we can develop a holistic bill based on the experiences of college practitioners, experts and, most importantly, students. If the bill is signed into law the SSCCC is requesting clean up legislation to make this program and any transfer efforts student-centered.

While we greatly appreciate the efforts to create an equitable transfer pathway, SSCCC emphasizes again that there is a need for student's voices to be at the table so that it is truly student centered.

Register for SSCCC's Advocacy Academy on December 1- 3, 2023

The SSCCC's [Advocacy Academy](#) is scheduled for December 1-3, 2023 at the Riverside Convention Center.

The Advocacy Academy theme is **"From Campus to Capitol and Every Step in Between."** Through this conference, we hope to equip student leaders with the **understanding of critical issues** that California community colleges are facing, such as but not limited to, affordable housing, financial aid, and transfers, but also give you the **tools on how to advocate efficiently**.

The workshops will follow four themes:

1. *Be an advocate for change.* In addition to being a state advocate, local and district advocacy are powerful tools that SSCCC is targeting with this conference.
2. *Leadership and empowerment.* The workshops are built to empower each student professionally and personally with workshops such as resume building and resolution writing.
3. *Intersectionality, inclusivity, and equality.* Students will be equipped with resources and how to utilize existing laws and integrate equality into future policies and infrastructure.
4. *Building community.* Students will be provided with materials to lobby and build coalitions to further their advocacy.

The workshops target developing relationships and coalition building with different system partners such as the Chancellor's Office and policymakers.

Please share this date with your student body association (SBA) and plan and coordinate your attendance with your community college's students and the region.

The registration link can be found [here](#).



Status of our sponsored and co-sponsored bills

As the 2023-24 legislative cycle officially concludes, here are the latest updates on SSCCC's sponsored and co-sponsored bills.

- **AB 1543 (M. Fong)**: Community colleges: student representation fees. **SPONSOR**
 - AB 1543, by Mike Fong, commencing with the 2024–25 academic year, would require the other \$1 of the \$2 student representation fee to be used to establish and support the operations of local student body organization and would give students the right to refuse the \$1 dollar of the \$2 dollar fee. **The bill was held in the Senate Appropriations committee and will not be moving forward.**
- **AB 1541 (M. Fong)**: Community colleges: governing board membership: student members. **SPONSOR**
 - AB 1541, by Mike Fong, would give each student member of the governing board of a community college district an advisory vote in comparison to existing law. **AB 1541 was signed by the governor on July 21st, 2023! We thank Asm. Mike Fong and his office for their continuous support for community college students.**
- **AB 1275 (Arambula)**: Community colleges: student-run community college organizations: open meetings: teleconferences. **SPONSOR**
 - This bill would create certain exemptions for existing Brown Act teleconferencing laws for student-run organizations. **The bill was pulled from the Senate Government and Finance Committee hearing by the author and has become a two-year bill. Even though this bill did not make it out this year, we urge everybody to request support from your local campuses and administrators to aid students with the necessary resources to continue ensuring student participation in meetings.**
- **AB 1749 (McCarthy, Berman)** - Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act: the University of California. **CO-SPONSOR**
 - This bill would require that a student who earns an associate degree for transfer be deemed eligible for transfer into a University of California baccalaureate degree program if they meet certain requirements. **This bill is held in the Senate Appropriations Committee and will not be moving forward.**



- **SB 467 (Portantino)** - Community College Apprenticeship or training programs. **CO-SPONSOR**
 - This bill would prohibit a student from being denied admission to a community college apprenticeship or internship training program because the student uses an individual tax identification number for purposes of the background check required by the class or program. **This bill was signed by the governor on July 13, 2023! We thank Senator Portantino and his team for their continuous support of community college students.**
- **AB 789 (Berman)** - Student Financial Aid: Cal Grants: Satisfactory Academic Progress **CO-SPONSOR**
 - This bill would require an institution to comply with requirements regarding “satisfactory academic progress” standards used to determine if a student qualifies for a Cal Grant and to develop and implement policies defining the standards consistent with the federal standards to inform students of their eligibility. **It is currently on the governor’s desk!**

For more information about SSCCC’s bill stances, see the [LAC Master Spreadsheet](#).

