

CSSA

CAL STATE STUDENT
— ASSOCIATION —

April Plenary Recap

Campus Connections

DISCUSSION: Support of LGBTQ+ Students

Had an engaging conversation with other campuses regarding campus support and initiatives for our LGBTQ+ Students.

Systemwide Affairs Committee

ACTION: CAMPUS DINING SERVICES: The committee considered recommendations regarding campus' engagement of students in Campus Dining Services to the Board.

Example:

- **consultation with students on how meal plan dining swipes can be rolled over from semester to semester to support and address Basic Needs of students**
- **Campus should designate a committee of campus community members inclusive of students, faculty, staff, and administrators to evaluate Campus Dining, feedback and operations, and make recommendations as appropriate.**

Systemwide Affairs Committee

ACTION: STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT FEEDBACK:

The committee considered recommendations regarding feedback to the CSU on the 'Student Participation in Policy Development' policy to the Board.

Example:

- **Campus Associated Student body organizations serve as official representative body of students on the campus**
- **Narrowly define that all campus work groups, committees, task forces, etc. must go through the Associated Students. If a specific population of students are requested for a committee (ex: a housing and residence life committee wants a student that lives in on-campus housing or an RA) should still go through the ASI.**

Systemwide Affairs Committee

DISCUSSION: CSU POLICY ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH: The committee discussed the CSU Policy on Student Mental Health.

Legislative affairs Committee

ASSEMBLY BILL 607: COURSE MATERIALS:

Issue: Course material costs make up a significant portion of the costs of secondary education. Unlike fees and tuition, course material costs are not fixed which makes it challenging for students to plan ahead. These types of digital materials are typically single use, leaving students without a mechanism to recoup costs when the course ends as they could with some physical materials, such as reselling a textbook.

Proposal: This bill requires each CSU campus 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. The bill would define, for purposes of this requirement, “course materials” to include digital or physical textbooks, devices such as calculators and remote attendance platforms, and software subscriptions.

Legislative affairs Committee

ASSEMBLY BILL 644: HATE CRIME SURVEYS:

Issue: Hate crimes endured by students at the California State University (CSU) on and off campuses inflict detrimental harm on individual students and surrounding campus communities. Hate crimes obstruct aims to create a welcoming university environment that enables the academic and personal success of all students. A 2022 study to mitigate racism on college campuses confirmed that institutions need to develop stronger and more systematic ways to address racism.

Proposal: This bill requires the CSU, in consultation with students, to develop an online survey with questions focused on campus safety and hate crimes. The bill additionally requires the CSU to generate a report based on survey responses that will be submitted to the California Legislature. The report must also be posted in a prominent location on each campus's website.

Legislative affairs Committee

ASSEMBLY BILL 1390: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: SERVICE LEARNING:

Issue: Many programs across the CSU system implement service learning into their degree and/or extracurricular activities, and opportunities are made available to students on every CSU campus. However, service learning is not a systemwide requirement for graduation.

Proposal: This bill would require the CSU to adopt service learning as a graduation requirement beginning in the 2027-2028 academic year, but not increase the number of units required to graduate from their universities with a baccalaureate degree by the enforcement of this requirement. This bill would also require the CSU to post system wide service learning opportunities on its website beginning in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Legislative affairs Committee

ASSEMBLY BILL 1630: PLANNING AND ZONING: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS: STUDENT HOUSING PROJECTS:

Issue: The limited access to and high cost of housing on and off campuses of the California State State University (CSU) increase the total cost of attendance for CSU students. Approximately 90% of CSU students rely on off-campus housing, but struggle as the cost of housing continues to increase in California.

Proposal: This bill would grant ministerial approval and modify building requirements for affordable off-campus housing within 1000 feet of college and university campuses. So long as 20% of units are guaranteed to low-income students and faculty, with the remaining 80% being leased through a tiered process reserving right of first refusal to students and faculty, housing projects will be exempt from density restrictions and allowed to build up to 40 ft. in height. Doing so will reduce demand for capacity-constrained on-campus housing and provide an affordable off-campus housing option for students.

Legislative affairs Committee

**ASSEMBLY BILL 1630: PLANNING AND ZONING: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
APPROVALS: STUDENT HOUSING PROJECTS:**

cont.:

Furthermore, altered standards for parking and other zoning restrictions will apply, with projects considered ministerial and subject to streamlined approval.

Projects must use prevailing wage labor and student eligibility for affordable housing is determined using a Cal Grant framework. This bill will not apply in certain zones or areas with sensitive environmental conditions.z

Legislative affairs Committee

SB 808: CSU TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT: SETTLEMENTS AND RETREAT RIGHTS:

Problem: The California State University's handling of sexual harassment and sexual violence complaints, especially those involving faculty, staff, and administrators, has been woefully inadequate.

- Proposal:** This bill would require the rules adopted by the CSU Board of Trustees to:
- 1. Require each campus president and either a vice president or vice chancellor to approve all sexual harassment settlements**
 - 2. Require a report to the Legislature on the number of sexual harassment complaints filed, the length of time take to complete the investigative process, and the disposition of those cases**
 - 3. Prohibit retreat rights for any campus president, provost, or other or other senior administrator who has violated CSU or campus Title IX policy**

Legislative affairs Committee

Discussion item: SENATE BILL 11: CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: CONTRACTING OUT:

Problem: Mental health resources for students foster more successful academic and personal experiences throughout their pursuit of a degree. However, many students experience a lack of services to improve their mental health. Specifically, long wait times to speak with a mental health counselor preclude students from receiving important and time-sensitive care. The implementation of telehealth mental health services is one way that campuses have begun to address gaps in such services for students. Bill proponents state that telehealth mental health services would be best serviced by CSU employees rather than contracted-out telehealth organizations.

Proposal: This bill states that by January 1, 2026, all CSU contracts with telehealth organizations shall be discontinued and that each CSU campus shall have a 24/7 telehealth mental counseling service composed solely of CSU-employed mental health counselors.

General Updates:

- **Juneteenth is an official paid holiday in the csu now!**
- **CSU will launch a transfer success program, beginning this summer 2023 with high school grads, \$2 million dollars in scholarships have been allocated.**



Thank you for your time!