

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

Martha Zaragoza-Diaz

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 13, 2019
To: CABE Board of Directors
From: Martha Zaragoza Diaz, Lobbyist
Subject: Legislative Report

I. Status of Sponsored & Co-Sponsored Legislation

There has been mixed results regarding our sponsored and co-sponsored bills. AB 1319 (Arambula and Bonta) is now in the Senate Education Committee however the Senate Education Committee has not set a hearing date for the bill. SB 594 (Rubio) is in the Assembly Education Committee and will stay there, making it a 2-year bill. AB 1012 (Reyes) Bilingual and Biliteracy Program Support and Recognition stayed on the suspense file of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, also making this a 2-year bill.

AB 1319 (Bonta) Migrant Education: Pupil Residency

Amended March 14, 2019, the bill would require local educational agencies, to allow a pupil who is a migratory child, to continue attending their school of origin, or a school within the school district of origin, as provided, regardless of any change of residence of the pupil, as specified. There is no opposition to this bill and is now in the Senate Education Committee waiting for a hearing date. The bill is co-sponsored with Californians Together.

SB 594 (Rubio) EL Roadmap Initiative

Amended May 17, 2019, the bill now states, implementation of its provisions would be contingent upon the enactment of an appropriation in the Budget Act or another statute. Additionally, the bill establishes the English Learner Roadmap Initiative under the administration of the California Department of Education (CDE), in collaboration with the CCEE. The bill would require the department, in collaboration with the CCEE, to identify and select a professional organization or organizations with expertise relating to English learners and the EL Roadmap, and work in coordination with that organization or those organizations. The bill would require the department, in collaboration with the CCEE, to establish a process, administered by the department, to select, subject to the approval of the executive director of the state board, a county office of education to serve as the lead agency to conduct specified activities required by the bill.

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

Martha Zaragoza-Diaz

On May 9, 2019 the Legislative Budget Conference Committee convened for the purpose of informing its members and the public, the compromises made on budget items in which a difference existed between the Senate and Assembly proposed actions on the budget items.

CABE, along with the other co-sponsors of the bill (Children NOW and Californians Together) were successful in its efforts to obtain an appropriation of \$10 million dollars for the professional learning specific to the EL Roadmap. The action taken and voted upon by members of the Budget Conference Committee specifies that the \$10 million would be allocated from the \$38.1million dollar appropriation for the Educator Workforce Investment Grant. However, the budget trailer bill language is currently being developed, so I have nothing to share with you at this time. However, attached is the budget trailer bill language specific to the Educator Workforce Investment Grant.

When a bill receives an appropriation for its purposes, the author of the bill can decide to continue to move it or to “hold it” in the committee the bill is in and request that it be a 2-year bill. Senator Rubio has decided to make SB 594 a 2-year bill. Also please remember that the budget trailer bill language may or may not be the same language contained in a bill or it can be very different, but the intent of bill is met. Stay tuned for the budget trailer bill language.

Several actions are necessary to ensure the appropriation of the \$10 million stays in the proposed budget. They are the approval by the Assembly and the Senate of the proposed legislative 2019-2020 State Budget and that Governor Newsom not “blue pencil” (eliminate this appropriations) this item!

Again, this bill is co-sponsored with Children NOW and Californians Together.

AB 1012 (Reyes) Bilingual Education: Bilingual and Biliteracy Support

Amended April 11, the bill expresses a commitment to providing bilingual and biliteracy opportunities for all pupils and increasing the number of bilingual teachers by appropriating a total of \$84,000,000 to be allocated for the 2020–21 fiscal year through the 2022–23 fiscal year to support the expansion of biliteracy and bilingualism opportunities for all pupils in California through certain grant programs and by providing funds to CSU’s for the specific purpose of hiring and retaining bilingual teacher faculty for accredited bilingual teacher preparation programs.

This bill failed to get off the suspense file of the Assembly Appropriations Committee and is now a 2-year bill. In spite of the efforts by Assembly Members Reyes and Medina, complemented with our efforts and those of our co-sponsors, the Assembly Budget Sub-Committee 1-Education Finance failed to approve the \$84 million appropriation for the purposes of AB 1012 nor did it approve the \$36 million for professional learning of ECE providers specific to dual language learners that we were also supporting.

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

Martha Zaragoza-Diaz

The primary reasons given for not approving our “budget ask” were we asked for “too much” and the Governor’s budget priorities were those of the legislature’s as well.

AB 1012 is co-sponsored with Californians Together, Early Edge and the Advancement Project.

Thank you Board members Marlene Batista and Mary Helen Ybarra for testifying before the members of the Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees on Education Finance requesting their support and approval on our requested appropriation for AB 1012 and thank you Barbara Flores and Mary Helen Ybarra for contacting Assembly Member Medina to move the budget item, which he was prepared to do.

Thank you to everyone who participated on the action alerts and signed letters asking legislators to support and approve the bills and budget request.

CABE will continue to pursue funding of dual language immersion, developmental bilingual and bilingual preschool programs as called for in Proposition 58 of November 2016 next year.