



California Association for Bilingual Education

May 2022 Legislative Advocate Report

Prepared by Jennifer Baker, CABE Legislative Advocate

Governor's May Revision Budget

Earlier this month, Governor Newsom unveiled a \$300.7 billion May Revision budget proposal, which includes a total of \$227.4 billion in the state General Fund. The May Revision has a staggering amount of excess funding, which is proposed to be spread to taxpayers, education, as well as numerous state programs. Should these proposals be included in the final budget, California residents are likely to see a number of benefits.



It is important to note that the economy is beginning to slow down, which is also reflected in budget projections. Some of the reasons forecasters are also urging economic caution is due to the continued impacts of the pandemic as well as the conflict in Ukraine, which is slowing down supply chains.

While the 2022-23 budget year is exceedingly positive, the Legislative Analyst's Office is urging the Legislature to move with caution by not creating new long-term obligations as well as putting additional money into reserves. These options are recommended because it is expected that the projected budget surplus will be much smaller next year and may be non-existent by 2024-25.

Education funding is at an all-time high with total funding at \$128.3 billion and a 2022-23 Proposition 98 total of \$110.3 billion. This amount would provide an average daily attendance of \$16,991 per pupil. Further, the local control funding formula is proposed to receive a 6.56 percent cost-of-living adjustment, as well as \$2.1 billion in ongoing funding to increase their base budgets to address increased pension costs, costs of goods, as well as rising district costs. Schools are also proposed to receive \$3.3 billion to provide average-daily-attendance stabilization due to fluctuating enrollment due to the pandemic. A recognition of the lingering mental impact of the pandemic is also reflected through a proposed \$8 billion in one-time discretionary funds to support both student and staff mental health.

While CABE was pleased to see the inclusion of \$15 million one-time funds for the Educator Workforce Investment Grant in special education and for the support of English learners (ELs), we continue to advocate for a total of \$20 million, provided over five years for the support of EL's. Additionally, we are working to ensure budget language will continue to allow both CABE and Californians Together to continue providing this essential service for California's English learners.

Ultimately, the overall proposed May Revision is staggeringly positive. It is important to note that this is still a work in progress and is subject to negotiation with both houses of the Legislature. The final Budget Act must be passed by June 15th and will ultimately reflect the final negotiations between the Governor, Senate Pro Tempore as well as the Assembly Speaker. Additional budget updates will be provided once the final budget is passed.

For a broader analysis of the budget, please visit the CABE website at:
<https://www.gocabe.org/index.php/communications-2/legislative-updates/>

CABE/Californians Together Lobby Day

Both CABE and Californians Together held a joint Lobby Day on May 10th with key leaders from both organizations. This successful day was filled with visits to crucial legislative offices and was focused on advocating both CABE/Californians Together’s legislative and budgetary goals. These visits provided an important view into the legislative and budget process and how the Legislature and Administration ultimately consider and integrate English learner issues as well as biliteracy into their overall priorities. We will continue to create additional opportunities to hold Lobby Days in the future to continue to advance our goals.



CABE/Californians Together Sponsored Legislation

AB 1701 (Medina) – Would create a grant program within the CSU to increase full-time faculty of its Colleges of Education bilingual authorization programs, to create more teachers with bilingual authorizations. Unfortunately, this bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. While the bill itself is no longer moving forward, we continue to try to garner funding for this important program through the budget process.

AB 1868 (Rivas) – Would require local education agencies with specified numbers of Long-Term English Learners to delineate goals and strategies for serving the needs of these students within their Local Control and Accountability Plan. The bill passed the Appropriations Committee as well as the Assembly Floor and is on its way to the Senate. The bill will shortly be referred to the Senate Education Committee and will likely be heard in mid-June.

SB 952 (Limón) – Would expand the number of schoolwide dual-language immersion programs in California. This measure passed the Senate and is making its way to the Assembly where it will be soon referred to the Assembly Education Committee. Its first hearing in the Assembly will likely also be in mid-June.

CABE-Supported Legislation Moves Forward

The following CABE-supported bills have all passed out of the Assembly and will shortly be heard in the Senate Education Committee:

AB 1703 (Ramos) – Would encourage school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to form California Indian education task forces with California Tribes local to their region, or historically located in their region. The bill would also encourage task force participants to discuss issues of mutual concern and requires these task forces to submit information annually to the CDE.

AB 1718 (Boerner Horvath) – Would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to allocate funding for standards-aligned instructional materials in both visual and performing arts and world languages. This would

ultimately increase the support provided to children in California’s schools regarding visual and performing arts and world languages, while also providing professional development to ensure student success and support.

AB 1777 (Aguiar-Curry) – Would expand education access to migrant students in grades K-8 by ensuring at least two local education agencies can provide continuous school instruction during the summer by allowing the local education agencies to access ADA funding reflecting the enrollment of migrant students. In 2017-18, California had 81,815 migrant students, half of these were English learners. In 2016-17, 74 percent of migrant students did not meet English Language Arts standards, compared to 53 percent of the general student population.

AB 1948 (Ting) – Changes the way child poverty is measured to increase school funding by revising the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) definition of unduplicated pupils. This would also increase the LCFF base grant by 15 percent and increases the total number of low-income students who would receive supplemental and concentration grant funding by increasing the household income eligibility threshold from 185 percent of the federal poverty level to 250 percent.

AB 2465 (Bonta) – Contingent upon appropriation, would require the CDE to develop and implement a competitive grant program to local LEAs, library districts, and public libraries to provide a library card to every student enrolled in the LEA. Would require the SPI to encourage all residents to use state libraries, regardless of immigration status as well as would require the CDE to provide information on its website regarding legal assistance and guidance to undocumented students, immigrants, and their families. This measure additionally includes numerous comprehensive programs and supports of literacy and biliteracy in schools.

AB 2598 (Weber) – Would require the CDE to develop a standard model to implement restorative justice practices within public schools, as well as make that information available on their website by 2024. Would require the appointment of nine members to an advisory committee by 2023 to assist in the planning and implementation of this standard model. Further, would require school districts to use this standard model by 2024 to implement restorative justice practices to improve campus culture and climate.

New Assembly Speaker



On May 27, Assembly Member Robert Rivas (D–Salinas) announced he had secured the needed support within the Democratic Caucus to become California’s next Assembly Speaker. Newly elected Speaker Rivas has begun discussions with current Speaker Rendon (D-Lakewood) on the transition of leadership.

Floor Deadline Passes

May 27th was the final day for both the Assembly and Senate to pass a bill out of its house of origin. Each respective house of the California Legislature held floor session from May 23-27 to pass as many bills as possible to the other house. Any bills that did not pass the floor of each house are dead.