

January 2023 Legislative Advocate Report

Prepared by Jennifer Baker, CABE Legislative Advocate

CABE 2023 Sponsored Legislation

CABE is gearing up for a successful 2023 in Sacramento and has already begun conversations to advance our priorities. I am pleased to report that CABE supporter, Assembly Member Eloise Reyes (D – San Bernardino), will be authoring CABE/Californians Together (CalTog)-sponsored legislation to revise, bring back, and fund the Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program, which will use a "grow your own" approach to addressing the bilingual teacher shortage. This critical legislation should be introduced in January.

CABE is co-sponsoring AB 393 (L. Rivas) with Early Edge and CalTog, which will expand asset-based dual language learner identification to general childcare programs to help California achieve the goals of the Master Plan to support these students. This legislation will require the Department of Social Services (CDSS), in consultation with the Department of Education (CDE), to create a process with the necessary guidelines and requirements regarding information to coordinate data collection for these students.

CABE is also co-sponsoring AB 370 (Addis) with CalTog, which will update the criteria required to obtain the State Seal of Biliteracy in order to make it equitable for all students to obtain and create a better understanding for all participating local educational agencies as to its implementation.

Budget Proposal Protects Education Funding

Governor Newsom released his 2023-24 proposed budget on January 10th, reflecting a relatively positive budget, despite the fact that the state is facing a \$22.5 billion shortfall due to the impacts on inflation, market instability and declining capital gains. The good news is that the budget maintains robust reserves, totaling \$35.6 billion, while addressing the budget shortfall through a series of funding delays, reductions/pullbacks, and funding year shifts, which do not impact overall education funding.

The proposed budget recognizes the slowing economy, and the impact inflation and the Federal Reserve may have on our ability to move out of this downturn. While the proposed budget does not factor a recession into its summary, it does note that should a mild recession open up early this year, additional cuts between \$20-40 billion may need to be considered. It is highly likely the May Revision will have the most accurate reflection of where our economy will be as it will be reflective of April tax receipts.

Education funding remains high at a total of \$108.8 billion in Proposition 98 funding, which funds California's schools and community colleges, reflecting total ADA funding of \$17,519 per pupil. Total overall education funding is \$128.5 billion, equating to \$23,723 in per pupil funding. A hefty cost-of-living increase of 8.13 has been incorporated into the local control funding formula, as well as a new equity multiplier intended to augment existing resources to support the highest-needs schools across the state.

The implementation of universal transitional kindergarten is still on target for completion in 2025-26, with \$604 million being added to the proposed budget to continue to expand access to all children turning five years old between September 2nd and February 2nd, while providing \$337 million to continue to provide an additional certificated or classified staff person in those expanded classrooms.

The budget includes \$2.5 million for 15 additional positions at the California Department of Education to meet state and federal data and accountability reporting requirements, support data exchanges with other agencies, and quickly respond to emergent data needs both internally and externally. This funding may potentially include the goals included in CABE/CalTog-sponsored AB 1868 (Rivas 2022), which was enacted into law on January 1st. CABE is working with the CDE and the Department of Finance to clarify the Administration's intent.

Additional details regarding the Governor's proposed budget can be found here: Summary of Governor's Budget.

Legislative Committee Chairs/Members Announced

The Senate and Assembly recently announced the 2023-24 Legislative Session Committee Chairs and Members. Sadly, the Education Committees in both houses are quite small and do not represent the gender and ethnic diversity of the state. There has been a political shift to the budget committees, which have integrated more policy changes into the budget over the past few years. It seems likely that this trend will likely continue based on the Committee assignments. The Committees that will focus on issues of importance to CABE include the following:

Senate Appropriations: Sen. Anthony Portantino (Chair); Sen. Brian Jones (Vice-Chair); Sen. Angelique Ashby; Sen. Bradford; Sen. Kelly Seyarto; Sen. Aisha Wahab; and Sen. Scott Wiener.

<u>Senate Budget and Fiscal Review</u>: Sen. Nancy Skinner (Chair); Sen. Roger Niello (Vice-Chair); Sen. Josh Becker; Sen. Anna Caballero; Sen. Brian Dahle; Sen. Maria Elena Durazo; Sen. Susan Talamantes Eggman; Sen. Shannon Grove; Sen. John Laird; Sen. Mike McGuire; Sen. Caroline Menjivar; Sen. Dave Min; Sen. John Newman; Sen. Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh; Sen. Steve Padilla; Sen. Richard Roth; Sen. Kelly Seyarto; and Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas.

<u>Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Education</u>: Sen. John Laird (Chair); Sen. Dave Min; Sen. Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh; and Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas.

Senate Education: Sen. John Newman (Chair); Sen. Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (Vice-Chair); Sen. Dave Cortese; Sen. Steven Glazer; Sen. Mike McGuire; Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas; and Sen. Scott Wilk.

<u>Senate Joint Legislative Budget Committee</u>: Sen. Nancy Skinner (Chair); Sen. John Becker; Sen. Brian Dahle; Sen. Maria Elena Durazo; Sen. Susan Talamantes Eggman; Sen. Roger Niello; Sen. Steve Padilla; and Sen. Richard Roth.

<u>Assembly Appropriations</u>: Assemblymember Chris Holden (Chair); Assemblymember Megan Dahle (Vice-Chair); Assemblymember Issac Bryan; Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo; Assemblymember Diane Dixon; Assemblymember Mike Fong; Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel; Assemblymember Gregg Hart; Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal; Assemblymember Devon Mathis; Assemblymember Diane Papan;

Assemblymember Gail Pellerin; Assemblymember Robert Rivas; Assemblymember Kate Sanchez; Assemblymember Akilah Weber; and Assemblymember Lori Wilson.

Assembly Budget: Assemblymember Phil Ting (Chair); Assemblymember Vince Fong (Vice-Chair); Assemblymember Juan Alanis; Assemblymember David Alvarez; Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula; Assemblymember Steve Bennett; Assemblymember Mia Bonta; Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo; Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes; Assemblymember Damon Connolly; Assemblymember Megan Dahle; Assemblymember Bill Essayli; Assemblymember Mike Fong; Assemblymember Laura Friedman; Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia; Assemblymember Gregg Hart; Assemblymember Corey Jackson; Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer; Assemblymember Tom Lackey; Assemblymember Alex Lee; Assemblymember Kevin McCarty; Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi; Assemblymember Jim Patterson; Assemblymember Joe Patterson; Assemblymember James Ramos; Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes; Assemblymember Luz Rivas; Assemblymember Blanca Rubio; Assemblymember Kate Sanchez; Assemblymember Buffy Wicks; and Assemblymember Jim Wood.

<u>Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance</u>: Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (Chair); Assemblymember David Alvarez; Sabrina Cervantes; Assemblymember Megan Dahle; Assemblymember Mike Fong; Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi; and Assemblymember Kate Sanchez.

<u>Assembly Education</u>: Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (Chair); Assemblymember Megan Dahle (Vice-Chair); Assemblymember Juan Carrillo; Assemblymember Josh Hoover; Assemblymember Alex Lee; Assemblymember Kevin McCarty; and Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva.

<u>Assembly Higher Education</u>: Assemblymember Mike Fong (Chair); Assemblymember Tri Ta (Vice-Chair); Assemblymember Dawn Addis; Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula; Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel; Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin; Assemblymember Evan Low; Assemblymember Liz Ortega; Assemblymember Kate Sanchez; Assemblymember Miguel Santiago; Assemblymember Greg Wallis; and Assemblymember Akilah Weber.