



## February 2023 Legislative Advocate Report

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### CABE 2023 Sponsored Legislation

All three of CABE's sponsored bills have been introduced and are being referred to policy committees for future hearings. AB 1127 (Reyes) would revise, bring back, and fund the Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program, which will use a "grow your own" approach to address the bilingual teacher shortage. This bill will likely be heard in late March or in April by the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 393 (L. Rivas) would 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. This bill will be heard by both the Assembly Health and Human Services and the Education Committees. It is likely the first hearing will be in mid-March.

AB 370 (Addis) would update the criteria required to obtain the State Seal of Bilingual Proficiency 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. This bill has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and will likely be heard in mid-March or in April.

### LAO Projects Additional Shortfall

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) has released a [multiyear assessment report](#) that indicates the likely shortfall in the 2023-24 budget may be \$7 billion larger than is predicted in the Governor's January budget proposal. A continued deteriorating revenue decline has increased the gap of funds needed to cover existing expenses for the state. Operating deficits are also forecast to be \$9 billion in 2024-25, \$9 billion in 2025-26, and \$4 billion in 2026-27. The LAO does not recommend dipping into the Rainy Day Fund at this point but does recommend either suspending deposits to the Rainy Day Fund, reducing one-time and temporary spending, and increasing cost shifts or revenues.

### Legislature Introduces Gobs of Bills

The 2023 deadline to introduce bills has now passed, leaving a significant amount of bills to review. Over 2,700 bills, resolutions and constitutional amendments were introduced. Out of these, over 1,000 were spot bills, meaning they are a placeholder and do not yet contain enough substance to move forward. It is likely that most of these spot bills may be two-year bills, giving legislators and sponsors additional time to plan and craft language to amend into these bills. CABE will be reviewing a number of bills that impact issues of interest and will be taking positions shortly.