



FACCC Legislation & Budget Committee Meeting Notes

May 6, 2024
5:00 – 6:00 pm

Attending: Wendy Brill-Wynkoop, Ruby Christian-Brougham, Joshua Christ, Michelle Haggerty, John Govsky, Oranit Limmaneeprasert, Anna Mathews, Bob Stockwell and Sarah Thompson
Absent: Libby Cook, Daniel Judge,

FACCC Legislative Tracker and May Revise

- Wendy stated the FACCC legislative tracker could be overwhelming but helps look up legislation.
- The appropriations deadline and May revise are next week and should reduce the legislative clutter, likely resulting in a significant drop in bill numbers.
- FACCC team will communicate updates next week due to expected high activity.

FACCC Sponsored Bills Progress

- **AB 2370** (AI/Ruby Bill):
 - FACCC was given a choice: kill the bill or amend it.
 - Amended language now leaves out AI references and specifies human minimum qualifications.
 - The bill passed through Assembly Higher Ed and then the Assembly easily.
 - It's now on its way to the Senate and doesn't have to go through appropriations.
- **AB 2707** (Housing Bill):
 - Sponsored by Fong, it addresses housing insecurities for students over **25**.
 - Changes were made considering LAO and Chancellor's office resource concerns, amendments made to lessen costs.
 - The bill is in suspense, and the Chancellor's office has been surprisingly supportive.
 - The future steps for the bill remain uncertain, and its passage may be challenging.
- **EBT Bill (AB 2023)** by Reyes:
 - FACCC addressed concerns in writing, and the bill advanced out of committee but is now in suspense, with its fate to be decided soon.
 - FACCC is hopeful about the bill's passage.
- **SB 1388** (Reserves Bill by Archuleta):
 - Some resistance from CEOs and CBOs due to reserve limit concerns.
 - Archuleta made convincing arguments, especially about faculty on contingent contracts.
 - The bill is struggling in suspense, future uncertain.

New Bill AB 2830 by Rendon (Part-Time Faculty Assignments)

- FACCC reviewed the bill, which concerns faculty assignments; it won't likely influence unemployment eligibility as classes can still be canceled.
- Some unions have similar contract provisions already.
- A motion to support AB **2830** was made and seconded; FACCC supports the bill to assist part-time faculty.

Senate Bill 1287 Speech on Campus

- SB **1287** by Glaser is designed to empower districts to manage the time, place, and manner for free speech, created partly in response to pro-Palestinian protests.
- While initially worrying, changes have refined the bill's language.
- The FACCC team chose to watch the bill, acknowledging the potential effects on free speech and preferring a cautious approach.

Funding Formula Development Plan

- Sarah advocated for a **5-year** plan for a new funding model, which won't detract from other legislative efforts.
- Suggested using FACT reserves to support the plan, ensuring it doesn't affect other priorities.
- Claimed that focusing on a funding model initiative offers membership benefits and coincides with the upcoming gubernatorial transition.

Next Steps and Recruiting

- FACCC is advised to take advantage of the upcoming opportunity introduced by the development of a new funding model with the next governor.
- Focus revolved around targeting per-pupil spending and how to simplify the process for early-stage goals within the larger strategic timeline.

Legislative Plan

- Sarah suggested having a subcommittee of Legend Advocacy to work on legislative goals.
- Immediate focus is on conducting a reserve study and a SCFF study.
 - Justification for the reserve study includes growing awareness that reserves have doubled since pre-COVID times.
 - There's a connection between SCFF funding and districts being poor stewards of taxpayer money, hiding it away.
 - The significance of SCFF study is to check if SCIF payment has bettered outcomes and equity gaps as initially promised.
 - Questions are raised on whether the SCIF has affected FTES.
- Recommended that the Committee ask CCCI to collaborate on a reserve audit, as they are known to appreciate audits.
- Sarah underlined the need for a per student spending evaluation in the fall.
 - Aims of the study include comparing spending across **K-12**, community colleges, CSUs, and UCs to look for spending inequality.
 - The study could lead to questioning whether community college budgets should stay tied to **K-12**, seeking to stop system antagonism.

Hold Harmless Policy

- John asked about the expiration of the hold harmless policy.
- Sarah and John clarified the end date is **2025-26**.

Prop 98 Split

- John mentioned the problems relating to the Prop **98** split, highlighting:
 - The view of community colleges as less expensive education options due to part-time faculty with lower wages.
 - Identified the potential need for a change in Prop **98** to support a unified faculty model.
- Sarah replied that Prop **98** does not have to work as it currently does and hinted at a possible need to rethink how it funds systems with a separate budget.

Budget Strategies

- Oranit suggested starting with a definition of full-time load for faculty and students before talking about funding directly to make the proposal less financially alarming.
- Sarah supported strategies based on information and suggested starting with a study bill examining equity across all four educational systems.

Engagement with Legislators & Think Tank Idea

- The group recognized the current conditions as positive for FACCC advocacy efforts.
- The "Fact Think Tank" idea was introduced, aiming to concentrate on strategic issues such as the SCIF and remediation.
- Plans were discussed to involve external organizations such as AS and SS Triple C in collaborative efforts.

Subcommittee for Legislative Goals

- Sarah asked for volunteers for a subcommittee focused on legislative goals.
- Bob, Ruby, Michelle, and Anna volunteered, with Ruby noting her institution's move away from the hold harmless policy.

AB 1705 Conversation

- It was made clear that FACCC never endorsed AB **1705**, advocating instead for fair access to standalone remediation for students.
- Wendy highlighted messaging that encourages student choice and fair access to standalone remediation, correcting the perception of FACCC's position.
- The need to not generalize student readiness was emphasized, advocating for respect for diverse student needs.

UC Algebra Requirement and Urgent Legislation

- Sarah expressed concerns about a UC proposal requiring Algebra **2** for admission, possibly affecting community college transfers.
- Anna pledged to investigate the scope of urgent legislation in response to potential UC admission changes.

- Preemptive bill drafting was talked about in preparation for possible UC admission policy enactment.

Noncredit Classes

- Wendy identified misunderstandings about noncredit classes, emphasizing their advantages and advising faculty to negotiate better teaching contracts.
- The group talked about noncredit classes' financial benefits to districts and the increased flexibility for students, alongside efforts to fight exploitative conditions in noncredit teaching contracts.

Noncredit Classes and Faculty Standards

- Oranit explained noncredit is favored by districts as a profitable option due to its 'open entry, open exit' nature and the ability to collect attendance time.
- Oranit did not specifically share concerns using a personal teaching experience.
- Oranit questioned continuing with noncredit classes just for financial benefits, suggesting we focus on maintaining educational standards that help students, instead of just perpetuating their situations.

Remedial Class Access

- Wendy countered Oranit's points by stating noncredit isn't just a source of income—it's beneficial to students.
- Wendy clarified guidelines for noncredit classes must differ from credit classes, implying it's wrong to have the same expectations as credit classes.
- Wendy stated the aim is for students to have access to standalone remedial classes without specifying credit or noncredit, responding to legislative interest in remedial solutions that aren't at college level.