

**Legislative Update
Oakland Unified School District
April 27, 2016**

TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

AB 2031 (Bonta, D) Local Government: Affordable Housing: Financing

Recommended Position:

As Amended March 17, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

This bill would authorize a city or county that formed a redevelopment agency and became the successor agency that received a finding of completion from the Department of Finance to reject its allocations of property tax revenues from the trust fund. The bill would direct those rejected property tax revenues to an affordable housing special beneficiary district, established as a temporary and distinct local governmental entity for the purposes of receiving a rejected distribution of property tax proceeds and promoting affordable housing by providing financing assistance within its boundaries. The bill would require a beneficiary district to be governed by a five-member board and comply with specified open meeting and public record laws. The bill would require a beneficiary district to cease to exist on the 90th calendar day after the date the county auditor-controller makes the final transfer of the distribution of property tax revenues to the beneficiary district, and prohibit a beneficiary district from undertaking any obligation that requires its action past that date. The bill would transfer any funds and public records of a beneficiary district remaining after the date the beneficiary district ceases to exist to the city or county that rejected the property tax revenues thereafter directed to that district, as specified.

SSC Comment: To the extent that Assembly Bill 2031 would secure funds for affordable housing, the bill could help OUSD attract and retain talented educators,

**AB 2122 (McCarty, D) California Classified School Employee Teacher
Credentialing Program**

Recommended Position:

As Amended April 14, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

This bill would establish the California Classified School Employee Teacher Credentialing Program (Program) to replace the “California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program” to encourage classified school employees to enroll in teacher training programs and to provide instructional service as teachers in the public schools.

The bill would state the Legislature’s intent that each fiscal year funding for the program be allocated to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for grants for up to 1,000 new participants per year and would prohibit a grant to an applicant from exceeding \$4,000 per participant per year. The Program would be subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act.

AB 2200 (Thurmond, D) School Employee Housing Assistance Grant Program

Position:

As Amended April 14, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

As amended April 14, 2016, this bill would require the California Housing Finance Agency to administer a grant program to provide development financing assistance to a qualified school district and to a qualified developer for the creation of affordable rental housing for school employees, including teachers. A “qualified school district” would have surplus land, a high cost for teacher recruitment, a low teacher retention rate, and

60% of its students participating in the National School Lunch Program. The bill would transfer \$100 million from the General Fund to the School Employee Housing Assistance Grant Fund, which would be created by this bill.

As amended after its first policy committee hearing, the bill would require the California Department of Education to certify that a school district seeking a grant meets the definition of qualified school district. Financing assistance would come in the form of predevelopment grants to qualified school districts and/or loans to qualified developers. Each project would be eligible for a loan not to exceed \$10 million.

AB 2336 (Olsen, R) Teacher Credentialing: Emergency Substitute Teaching

Recommended Position:

Permits: Special Education

SUPPORT

As Amended April 14, 2016

Summary:

This bill, as significantly amended on April 14, 2016, would, until January 1, 2022, authorize a person holding a valid emergency 30-day substitute teacher permit to serve as a substitute in a special education classroom for up to 40 consecutive school days when specified conditions are met. The bill would require an employing authority to report annually to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, specifying whether or not the employing authority employed any permit holders pursuant to these provisions and, if so, the number of permit holders employed pursuant to these provisions and the length of time they were employed.

Specified conditions to utilize this authority include: the permit holder is filling an immediate staffing need due to a vacancy (not an absence), the school has completed a “Statement of Need” form, and the employing authority has reason to believe the vacancy will last longer than 20 school days and will implement a 6-hour training plan for the permit holder.

SSC Comment: This bill is sponsored by the Association of California School Administrators.

AB 2401 (O'Donnell, D) Teachers: California Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment System

Recommended Position:

WATCH

As Amended March 30, 2016

Summary:

This bill would reestablish dedicated state funding for the California Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment System (BTSA), which is administered jointly by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and the Superintendent of Public Instruction for specified purposes, including providing an effective transition into the teaching career for first-year and second-year teachers in California. Funding for BTSA was subsumed in the LCFF Base Grant and was not retained as a categorical program. Since the cessation of dedicated state funding for BTSA, the CTC reports that almost 12% of beginning teachers enrolled in a BTSA program paid a participation fee when, in the past, districts receiving BTSA funding were required to contribute a local share (\$2,000 per participant).

AB 2441 (Thurmond, D) Housing: Workforce Housing in High-Cost Areas Pilot Program

Recommended Position:

SUPPORT

As Amended March 18, 2016

Summary:

This bill would create the Workforce Housing in High-Cost Areas Pilot Program, pursuant to which the Department of Housing and Community Development would award grant funding to eligible cities or cities and counties located in a high-cost counties, as specified, for the predevelopment costs, acquisition,

construction, or rehabilitation of rental housing projects or units within rental housing projects, the affordability of which shall be restricted for a period of at least 55 years.

SB 1413 (Leno, D) School Districts: Employee Housing

Recommended Position:

As Amended March 30, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

Existing law establishes various housing and home loan programs throughout the state to help low-income families and other specified groups. Existing law authorizes the governing board of any school district, when leasing a building for housing of school district employees, to lease the building for any period they deem necessary. This bill would authorize a school district to establish and implement programs that leverage federal state, local, or private resources, promotes public-private partnerships and financing innovations to address the housing needs of teachers and school district employees who face challenges in securing affordable housing.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

AB 2242 (Lopez, D) Charter Schools: Operation: Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporations: For-Profit Corporations

Recommended Position:

As Amended March 18, 2016

WATCH

Summary:

This bill, as amended on March 18, 2016, would prohibit a nonprofit public benefit corporation that operates, or operates as, a charter school from:

- Operating or organizing in any manner inconsistent with the accountability requirements that all charter schools owe the public
- Having members, as defined in corporation law, having the right to vote for the election of a director
- Being a subsidiary of any other corporation
- Being affiliated with another corporation or equivalent legal entity that has the power to control, or otherwise exert control over, either directly or indirectly, the decision making or governance of the charter school.

The bill would also prohibit a charter school from operating as, or being operated by, a for-profit corporation.

SSC Comment: Assembly Member Roger Hernandez (D-West Covina) authored a similar bill prohibiting charters from being operated by a for-profit charter. Governor Brown vetoed the legislation noting in part, “I don’t believe the case has been made to eliminate for-profit charter schools in California.”

This bill is sponsored by the Los Angeles Unified School District.

EARLY EDUCATION

AB 2410 (Bonta, D) Early Learning: Local Control School Readiness Act of 2016

Recommended Position:
WATCH

As Amended April 7, 2016

Summary:

The bill would require the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop pre-kindergarten learning development guidelines, focused on preparing four- and five-year-old children for kindergarten, “based on current science that reflects how publicly funded programs can close the school readiness gap.” The bill would also authorize a local educational agency, in partnership with community-based organizations, to apply to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a waiver from the department’s Desired Results Quality Improvement System, by developing a “Local Control Quality Improvement Plan.” Finally, the bill would establish a state committee to develop a kindergarten readiness definition that has clear benchmarks for skills that are predictive of later success in academics and social-emotional, health, and executive functioning skills as evidenced by current research.

AB 2660 (McCarty, D) Early Education: Three-Year Plan

Recommended Position:
SUPPORT

As Amended April 13, 2016

Summary:

As amended, this bill would require the California Department of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care, on or before January 1, 2018, to submit to the Legislature and the Department of Finance a multiyear plan for providing access to income-eligible children to high-quality prekindergarten programs for a minimum of one year before enrollment in kindergarten and a multiyear plan for ensuring that publicly funded prekindergarten programs focus on specified elements that are closely associated with high-quality prekindergarten programs and positive outcomes for children.

SB 1042 (Hancock, D) Child Care: State Preschool Programs: Age of Eligibility

Recommended Position:
SUPPORT

As Introduced February 12, 2016

Summary:

For purposes of state preschool program eligibility, this bill, as introduced, would define “three-year-old children” as children who will have their third birthday on or before December 1 (instead of September 1) of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a California state preschool program.

MISCELLANEOUS

AB 2393 (Campos, D) School Classified Employees: Sick Leave: Parental Leave

Recommended Position:
WATCH

As Introduced February 18, 2016

Summary:

This bill would provide differential pay (the difference between his or her salary and the sum that is actually paid to a substitute employee) benefits for up to 12 workweeks if the classified school employee is absent on account of parental leave. The bill would provide that the 12-week period shall be reduced by any period of sick leave, including accumulated sick leave, during a period of parental leave.

The bill would provide that, to the extent these provisions conflict with any provision of a collective bargaining agreement entered into before January 1, 2017, by a public school employer and an exclusive bargaining representative, these provisions shall not apply until the expiration or renewal of that collective bargaining agreement.

AB 2663 (Cooper, D) After School Programs: Grant Amounts

Recommended Position:

As Amended April 13, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

This bill would require the Legislature to continuously appropriate of \$73.3 million to support the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program Act of 2002, and to annually adjust the appropriation at a rate equal to the percent change in the Consumer Price Index. As recently amended, the bill would require the CDE to adjust the maximum grant amounts.

SSC Comment: ASES funding has not been increased or adjusted since 2007. The recent change in California's minimum wage law that gradually increases the state minimum wage to \$15 per hour could significantly impact the sustainability of ASES programs.

SB 1071 (Allen, D) Special Education Funding: Preschool-Age Individuals With Exceptional Needs

Recommended Position:

As Introduced February 16, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

As introduced, this bill would establish a new formula for a permanent, one-time total adjustment to the Special Education Local Plan Area base funding calculation, to be calculated by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, to support special education as required under the individualized education program for each three- and four-year-old preschool individual with exceptional needs, upon an appropriation in the Budget Act.

AB 1572 (Campos, D) School Transportation

Recommended Position:

As Amended April 5, 2016

WATCH

Summary:

As amended, this bill would require a public, noncharter school to provide free transportation to a pupil attending a school that is eligible for Title 1 federal funding if the student resides more than a half mile from the school and the route to school is deemed "unsafe." If a school district is not currently providing transportation to all pupils attending schools that are eligible for Title 1 federal funding, the district shall implement a plan to ensure that all pupils entitled to free transportation receive the transportation. Districts would be authorized to partner with transit authorities for the transportation of middle and high school students.

AB 1644 (Bonta, D) School-Based Early Mental Health Intervention and Prevention Services

Recommended Position:

As Amended April 14, 2016

SUPPORT

Summary:

This bill, as amended April 14, 2016, would rename the "School-Based Early Mental Health Intervention and Prevention Services for Children Act" to the "Healing from Early Adversity to Level the Impact (HEAL) of Trauma in Schools Act." The bill would expand the definition of an eligible pupil to include a pupil who attends a preschool program at a contracting agency of the California state preschool program or a local

educational agency (LEA) and a pupil who is in transitional kindergarten (current law eligibility is kindergarten through grade 3). The bill would also include charter schools in the definition of a LEA that can receive matching grants for these programs.

The bill would create a four-year program, the School-Based Early Mental Health Intervention and Prevention Services Support Program, to provide outreach, free regional training, and technical assistance for LEAs in providing mental health services at school sites.

SSC Comment: Similar legislation from last year, Assembly Bill 1133 (Achadjian, R-San Luis Obispo), was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee last year, with an estimated administrative cost of at least \$315,000 to establish the Early Mental Health Initiative (EMHI) Support Program.