

Zaragoza-Diaz & Associates

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MEMORANDUM

Date: June 17, 2020
To: CAFE Board of Directors
From: Martha Zaragoza Diaz
Subject: Legislative & Budget Update

I.2020 Legislation

In response to COVID-19 and the current economic recession, Leadership & Budget Committee Chairpersons of both houses informed legislators bills not specifically addressing the corona virus will not be heard in policy or fiscal committees.

Californians Together & CAFEs co-sponsored bills are “dead”.

- AB 2516 (Reyes) Co-sponsored with Californians Together, Children NOW, Early Edge and Moms Rising. The bill was amended to specifically target resources to ELs & Dual language learners specific to distance learning & learning loss. The bill was not heard in the Assembly Education Committee.

- AB 2602 (Jones-Sawyer) Co-sponsored with Californians Together.

This bill initially dealt with establishing an advisory committee to the SSPI Thurmond for the purpose of identifying steps to be taken for the purpose of establishing a badge of biliteracy at the postsecondary level. It also included language that would authorize LEAs to develop local language proficiency assessments that meet specified criteria. The bill was amended to only include language specific to the development of local language proficiency assessments. Since the bill did not relate specifically to COVID-19, the bill was not heard in the Assembly Education Committee.

-ACA 5 (Weber) Government Preference. (CAFE supports.) Passed off the Assembly Floor. The California Constitution, pursuant to provisions enacted by the initiative Proposition 209 in 1996, prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or

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public contracting. The California Constitution defines the state for these purposes to include the state, any city, county, public university system, community college district, school district, special district, or any other political subdivision or governmental instrumentality of, or within, the state. This measure would repeal these provisions. ACA 5 is in the second house and passed out of the Senate Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee. It will now be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

- AB 1835 (Weber) LCFF. (CABE supports.)

Requires reporting of unspent supplemental and concentration (S&C) funds to CDE and requires unspent S&C funds be expended on unduplicated pupils. Passed off the Assembly Floor. Is in the Senate.

II. Legislature's Version of 2020-21 Budget

The Senate and the Assembly reached agreement as to the content of the 2020-21 Budget on June 4, 2020. Very little public or stakeholder input was provided on this budget. For that matter very little input by legislators themselves was provided.

Because of COVID-18 and the "shelter in place" state directive, business of the legislature has taken place virtually, with very few legislators present in the capitol. Public and stakeholder input also was given via a call-in number. Little or no face-to-face interaction with legislative and legislative budget staff occurred.

The Legislature's version of the 2020-21 State Budget is now being negotiated by the "Big 3", Governor Newsom, Senate President Pro Tempore and the Assembly Speaker. A final state budget must be forwarded to Governor Newsom on June 15th, the constitutional deadline.

Below are some of the major provisions contained in the Legislature's Version of the 2020-21 Budget. Upon agreement by the Big 3, an updated budget report will be forwarded.

Major Features:

- Closes \$54 billion deficit.
- Anticipates \$14 trillion in additional federal funding.
- Establishes specific "trigger solutions", effective Oct 1, 2020, if additional federal funds are not provided.
- Use of reserve funding, deferrals and transfer of funds.

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- Proposition 98:
 - Rejects \$1.87 billion proposed cuts contained in Governor's May Revision trigger proposal.
 - Proposes K-12 funding from all sources at \$107.9 billion in budget year; \$18, 416 per student.
 - Rejects 10% LCFF reduction from May Revision.
 - Adopts an LCFF COLA of 2.31%.
 - Allocates \$4.5 billion in discretionary federal funds for one-time COVID closure impacts on schools, including \$2.9 billion to all LEAs based on LCFF for learning loss.

- Deferrals:
 - \$1.8 billion in Prop 98 in 2019-20 budget year to the 2020-21 budget year
 - \$3.4 billion Prop 98 from 2020-21 budget to 2021-22 budget year
 - \$4.625 in 2020-21 deferrals if additional federal funds not provided.
 - Provides an ADA hold harmless for LEAs in the 2020-21 fiscal year and requires distance learning in the event of school closures.

- ADA "hold harmless" for LEAs in the 2020-21 fiscal year at the 2019-20 level as established in SB 117 contingent on student engagement and local "Continuity of Learning Plans".
- Alignment of local Continuity of Learning Plans and LCAPs for 2020-21 Budget Year.
- Requires distance learning in the event of school closures.

III. Issues:

- Approximately \$10 billion in deferrals.
- Distance Learning
- Waiving of instructional minutes.
- Student access to devices and reliable internet services.
- Lack of parent/family support.
- Access to a full curriculum.

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