

# June 2024 Legislative Advocate Report Prepared by Jennifer Baker, CABE Legislative Advocate

#### **Revised Budget Passed**

The Legislature passed a final budget package on Wednesday evening, June 26<sup>th</sup>, which the Governor is expected to sign. The final budget includes revenue estimates included in the May Revision. It closes the final \$28 billion 2024-25 projected shortfall while additionally addressing the budget in 2025-26, leaving \$11 billion in the Rainy Day fund for future use.

The budget includes a total of \$211.5 billion in General Fund spending, \$86.4 billion from other state funds, and \$153 billion in federal funds. Overall revenues include savings from a three-year net operating loss suspension, beginning in 2024.

The final budget includes a modified package of what the Governor previously bargained with education stakeholders. This agreement will allow \$6.2 billion of previously appropriated funds from 2022-23 to accrue over a period of years, beginning in 2026-27 through 2035-36, essentially allowing these funds to be accounted for over a number of years instead of in 2022-23.

2024-25 TK-12 funding totals \$136 billion, including all funding sources, bringing total per pupil funding to \$24,626, and \$18,354 per pupil from Proposition 98 funding. Proposition 98 funding for 2022-23 totals 98.5 billion.

Proposition 98 funding for 2024-25 equals \$115.27 billion, with \$4 billion in "maintenance factor" revenues being paid back into the Proposition 98 base. This budget package includes protections for both certificated and classified school personnel for the 2024-25 school year, including a one-year freeze on local education agencies' ability to terminate both permanent and probationary certificated and classified staff between the time the budget is enacted and August 15<sup>th</sup> of the budget year if the local control funding formula cost-of-living is less than two percent. The budget provides a 1.07 percent cost-of-living adjustment for 2024-25, which includes \$89.2 million to statutorily required programs, including the COLA for the LCFF equity multiplies, nutrition, and the mandate block grant.

The 2023-24 suspension creates an \$8.31 billion in "maintenance factor," which will be paid back to schools and community colleges with high future funding until it is paid off. Further, \$8.4 billion is provided through the Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA), leaving \$1.1 billion in this reserve. The final budget defers \$2.58 billion in 2022-23 funding which is paid using PSSSA funds in 2023-24. It creates a one-time \$4 billion deferral in 2023-24, which is paid off in 2024-25, while additionally creating a one-time deferral in 2024-25 of \$245.6 million and authorizing deferral warrants for LEAs.

### CABE Co-Sponsored Bill Update

The following CABE co-sponsored measures are in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2071 (J. Carrillo): Would establish the English Learner Roadmap Implementation Grant Pilot Program to assist in the implementation of the California English Learner Roadmap Policy. The State Board of Education would also be tasked with creating a California English Learner Roadmap: Parent Toolkit by 2025. CABE and Californian's Together are co-sponsoring this important measure, which is also a budget priority.

AB 2074 (Muratsuchi): Would task the California Department of Education (CDE) with creating an implementation plan for the California English Learner Roadmap Policy and also requires designated staff at CDE to serve as a point of reference to ensure the implementation plan created roles out and gets to all the school districts; these staffers would serve as a point of reference and assistance. Californians Together and CABE are co-sponsoring this bill, which is also a budget priority.

The Governor has signed the following co-sponsored bill, which is now law. The California Department of Education has already issued guidance:

AB 2268 (Muratsuchi): Exempts transitional kindergarten students from the administration of the English Language Proficient Assessments for California. Early Edge, Californians Together, and CABE are cosponsors.

### CABE Bill Update

The following are bills CABE has taken a position on and their Legislative location:

AB 1805 (Ta) – Would require that content standards incorporate the landmark desegregation case, *Mendez v. Westminster,* when they are revised. This bill is on the Senate Floor.

AB 1821 (Ramos) – Would ensure California's history is accurately taught, including its treatment of Native Americans with respect to teaching about Spanish missions as well as the Gold Rush Era. The bill is on the Senate Floor.

AB 2226 (Muratsuchi) – Would expand the minimum day for kindergarten programs to full-time beginning in 2026-27. The bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

SB 1078 (Min) – Creates legislative intent to establish an Office of Language Access, which would ensure that California's state agencies are able to provide information to our residents in the languages reflected within California to increase access to services by non-English speakers and equity in existing levels of effectiveness and equity towards all residents. The bill is in the Assembly Human Services Committee.

## Remaining Legislative Calendar

June 27 – Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the November General Election.

July 3 – Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills.

July 3 – Summer Recess

August 5 – Legislature reconvenes

August 16 – Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills.

August 19 – Floor session only.

August 23 – Last day to amend bills on the floor.

August 31 – Last day for each house to pass bills.

August 31 – Legislative recess

September 30 – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills.

November 5 – General Election.

November 30 – Legislature adjourns.

December 2 – Legislative 2025-26 session convenes.

January 1, 2025 – Statutes take effect.