



March 2025 Legislative Advocate Report

Prepared by Jennifer Baker, CABE Legislative Advocate

CABE-Supported Legislation

CABE has taken a support position on the following bills and will be advocating in support of these measures:

AB 49 (Muratsuchi): Immigration Enforcement: Would prohibit local educational agency school officials and employees from allowing federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials from entering a school site for any purpose without providing valid identification, a written statement of purpose, a valid judicial warrant, as well as receiving approval from the superintendent of the district, the county, or the principal of the charter school or their designee. Further, AB 49 requires the local education agency (LEA) to limit access to school facilities. This measure is in the Assembly Education Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

AB 243 (Ahrens): Student Financial Aid Dependency Status: Would require financial administrators of the California Community Colleges, California State University, or University of California, or the Student Aid Commission, to accept a sworn statement signed under penalty of perjury by a representative of a local education agency (LEA), county welfare department, or probation department as sufficient document for student aid. This measure is in the Assembly Higher Education Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

AB 419 (Connolly): Education Equity: Immigration Enforcement: Would require schools to post guidelines on educational rights related to immigration-enforcement actions in English and Spanish. CABE is working with the author to amend the bill to ensure these materials would be translated into every language spoken at a school site, despite whether they have achieved 15 percent of the student population. This measure will be heard on March 26th in the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 421 (Solache): Immigration Enforcement: Prohibitions on Access, Sharing Information, and Law Enforcement Collaboration: Would prohibit California law enforcement agencies from collaborating with or providing information to immigration authorities within a one-mile radius of any childcare or daycare facility, religious institution, place of worship, hospital, or medical office. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Public Safety Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

AB 695 (Fong): California Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students: Would ensure community college students who have been involuntarily removed do not have to pay nonresident tuition. CABE believes that California must lead the nation in its vigilant protection and support for the safety and well-being of California's immigrant community who are already facing

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objectification and are beginning to face harassment and intimidation. This important measure will assist students wishing to pursue higher education to continue to pursue their goals. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

AB 833 (Alvarez): Teacher Exchange Program: Would require the State Board of Education’s rules and regulations regarding teacher exchanges with Mexico to be reported to the Legislature, including the number of teachers participating, disaggregated by home country. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and will be heard on March 26th.

AB 857 (Gipson): Cultural Competency Training: Would require the State Department of Education to create an online cultural competency training program and curriculum by 2027 and requires local education agencies to provide training to all school employees on this new curriculum. CAFE believes cultural competency training is imperative to support the growing, diverse student population. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and will be heard on March 26th.

AB 1348 (Bains): Average Daily Attendance: Immigration Enforcement Activity: Would protect school funding from declining due to immigration enforcement activities. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

SB 12 (Gonzalez): Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency: Would create the Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency headed by a secretary appointed by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation who would reduce obstacles and enhance immigration integration into California. The measure has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

SB 48 (Gonzalez): Immigration Enforcement at School Sites: Would prohibit school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools and their personnel, from allowing Immigration and Customs Enforcement to access a school campus without a judicial warrant. To the extent possible, SB 48 would require local education agencies and their personnel to document and have a witness present when denying such access. Additionally, the bill would prohibit LEAs and their personnel from disclosing or providing education records about a pupil, pupil’s family, school employees, or teachers, without a judicial warrant. The measure has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee and has not yet been set for a hearing.

SB 98 (Pérez): Immigration Enforcement Notification: Would require school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and postsecondary educational entities to immediately notify all pupils, parents, faculty, staff, and other school community members of the presence of immigration officers on the school site. The measure was passed by the Senate Education Committee and has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

CAFE-Opposed Legislation

AB 1121 (Rubio): Early Literacy: Professional Development: Instructional Materials: Would restructure California’s reading literacy policies using a single method over a balanced approach, focusing attention away from comprehension, vocabulary, writing, and critical thinking.

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California has a strong, research-based framework for literacy and biliteracy instruction, which has not been fully implemented or funded. CAFE believes that, instead of creating new mandates by revising or replacing existing statutes, CAFE believes California should focus on supporting educators by fully implementing existing literacy/biliteracy policies.

CAFE Budget Priorities

CAFE is working in collaboration with Californians Together (CalTog) to urge the Legislature and Governor to find ways to increase the systemic support and protections needed for English learners and their families to continue to create a future where equity and support can be achieved, and a brighter future can be provided for these students and the state as a whole.

The most important priority our organizations believe is that California must lead the nation in its vigilant protection and support for the safety and well-being of California’s immigrant community who are already facing objectification and are beginning to face harassment and intimidation. Many fear separation from their families, despite their status as citizens or documented residents. Approximately 45 percent of children in our state have at least one immigrant parent. Additionally, 60 percent of children under the age of five speak a language other than English at home, meaning California must create policies that are more purposeful and direct in supporting the future by investing in students now.

Both CAFE and California’s Together are also in support of the following budget priorities:

EL Roadmap Policy: Statewide Implementation Plan: Fiscal support to implement AB 2074 (Muratsuchi and Alvarez), [Chapter 946](#), Statutes of 2024, which tasks the California Department of Education (CDE) with developing an implementation plan for the California English Learner Roadmap Policy (EL Roadmap). Working collaboratively with the CDE, it was estimated that the initial cost to develop the implementation plan outlined in the bill would be approximately \$500,000, with a similar amount needed annually to support personnel tasked with carrying out the bill’s requirements.

Educator Workforce Investment Grant (EWIG): English Learner Roadmap Policy Implementation

We are requesting the Legislature and Governor support an additional \$20 million, four-year grant program to fund the EWIG through comprehensive, systemic approaches.

Budget Subcommittees Weigh Education Funding

The State Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1 on Education, chaired by Sen. John Laird, as well as the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance, chaired by Asm. David Alvarez, have each individually met to review and discuss education funding on key education funding priorities. Discussions have included budget constraints, declining enrollment in universal preschool, free meal programs, school rebuilding efforts after wildfires, teacher shortages, and the need for expanded learning opportunities. Conversations have additionally taken place regarding the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) amid concerns over stagnant student performance, including long-term funding solutions.

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Legislators have debated education funding levels, with some questioning the effectiveness of increased spending. Superintendent Thurmond provided updates to each Budget Subcommittee, which included the need to provide additional funding for dual immersion programs across the state.

The 2025-26 California education budget allocates \$118.9 billion for K-12 and community colleges, with \$7.8 billion in new investments.

Legislative Calendar

- April 1 – CAFE Lobby Day.
- May 2 – Last day for policy committees to hear fiscal bills.
- May 9 – Last day for policy committees to hear nonfiscal bills.
- May 16 – Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 9.
- May 23 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear Floor bills introduced in their house.
- June 2-6 – Floor session only.
- June 6 – Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.
- June 9 – Committee meetings may resume.
- June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight.
- July 18 – Last day for policy committees to hear bills. Summer Recess begins.
- August 18 – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
- August 29 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear bills.
- September 2-12 – Floor session only.
- September 5 – Last day to amend a bill on the Floor.
- September 12 – Last day for each house to pass bills. Interim Recess begins.

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