

June 2025 Legislative Advocate Report

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Final Budget Passed

The Legislature passed the Budget Act of 2025, which utilizes <u>AB 102 (Wiener)</u> as a primary vehicle, on June 27th. Included in the budget conversation is the recognition of a budget shortfall caused primarily by the recent federal tariffs and economic policies, systemic increases in Medi-Cal that have grown faster than predicted, and the recent Los Angeles wildfires and their resulting economic impact upon the state.

The budget includes \$321.1 billion in total spending, including \$228.4 billion in General Fund spending. The budget includes a total of \$15.7 billion in reserves, which includes \$11.2 billion in the Rainy Day Fund and \$4.5 billion in the overall reserve.

TK-12 Education

A total of \$114.6 billion is provided for Proposition 98 in 2025-26, and \$118 billion for 2024-25, and \$98.5 billion for 2023-24. Within 2024-25 and 2025-26, a total settle-up amount of \$1.9 billion is created for 2025-26, which will be used for ongoing costs as well as addressing deferrals. These funds will be appropriated with the budget development of 2026-27 and will be provided to the Legislature when the Governor releases his 2026 budget on January 10th.

A total of \$406.3 million is withdrawn from the Public School System Stabilization Account to cover costs associated with the local control funding formula (LCFF). The LCFF includes a 2.3 percent cost-of-living-adjustment. A deferral of \$1.9 million is created from July 2025-26 to 2026-27, which will be fully paid in 2026-27. Further, the budget reverts \$177.5 million General Fund for a one-time statutory appropriation from the 2023 Budget Act for the School Facility Program.

Senate Selects New Leader

Senate Democrats elected the first Latina to serve as the next leader of the Senate likely beginning in 2026. Senate Pro Tempore-elect Monique Limón, a progressive from Santa Barbara, is a former school board member and the daughter of immigrants. She has supported CABE's legislative efforts during her tenure in the Senate. She will be replacing current Senate Pro Tempore Mike McGuire from Santa Rosa.

CABE-Supported Legislation

Both houses of the legislature are hearing bills in policy committees. To move forward this year, bills will need to pass these policy committees by July 18th. The following bills are supported by CABE:

AB 49 (Muratsuchi): Immigration Enforcement: Would prohibit local educational agency (LEA) school officials and employees from allowing an agency conducting immigration enforcement from entering a school site for any purpose without providing valid identification and a signed and valid judicial warrant, a court order, or exigent circumstances necessitate immediate action. The measure further requires the LEA to limit access to school facilities, as prescribed by law. This measure is in the Senate Education Committee.

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 LEA, county welfare department, or probation department as sufficient document for student aid. This measure has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

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 is in the Senate Judiciary Committee. CABE testified as a primary witness in support of this measure in the Senate Education Committee.

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. This important measure will assist students wishing to pursue higher education in continuing to pursue their goals. The measure is in the Senate Education Committee.

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 is in the Senate Appropriations Committee. CABE testified as a primary witness in support of this measure in the Senate Education Committee.

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 Senate Education Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

AB 1454 (Rivas): Pupil Literacy: Administrative Services Credential Program standards and professional Development: Instructional Materials: Would support California's efforts to improve student literacy for all students through the strengthening of professional development, updating professional materials, and ensure training that incorporates evidence-based instructional strategies that will also support English Learners in language development and literacy. This bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

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 Assembly Education Committee and the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

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 has been referred to the Assembly Education Committee and the Assembly Education Committee.

Legislative Calendar

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.