

## TOP LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

The next few bills are awaiting the governor's signature. The governor has until September 30<sup>th</sup> to sign.

**Assembly Bill (AB) 1951 O'Donnell, Long Beach** – Pupil Assessment: Pathways to College Act. This bill would commence with the 2020-21 school year, authorize school districts, county, charters, to administer a nationally recognized high school assessment that meets specified criteria in lieu of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade SBAC assessments. The alternative assessment(s) would be required to align to state academic standards and be just as rigorous as the SBAC assessments. More on this bill will come. Currently it is with the Governor for signature.

**AB 1974 Pupils: Collection of Debt:** This bill would enact the public school fair debt collection act, which would provide that a pupil or former pupil can never owe or be billed for a debt owed to a LEA. The act would prohibit LEAs from taking negative actions against a pupil or former pupil because of a debt owed to the educational entity, such as withholding grades, transcripts, or denying a diploma. The bill would provide that these provisions, however, do not apply to debt owed as a result of vandalism or willful destruction of school supplies or property.

**SB 328 Pupil Attendance: School start time:** This bill would prohibit school districts, including charter schools, from beginning the school day for middle and high schools earlier than 8:30 a.m. starting July 1, 2021, or the date in which a district's collective bargaining agreement expires, whichever is later. The measure further specifies that the "school day" does not include a "zero period" or an extra period offered before or the start of a regular school day. Rural school districts would be exempt from the start time limitation.

**AB2735 O'Donnell English Learners:** Participation in Standard Instructional Program. This bill commencing with the 2019-20 school year, would specify that a middle and high school pupil who 1) is classified as an English Learner, and 2) scores at any proficiency level on the assessment of English language development shall not be denied participation in a school's standard instructional program. The pupil shall not be denied enrollment in specified courses, including courses required for graduation and college admission. By imposing additional duties on LEAs, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Below are the **bills signed by the governor** and will go into effect on January 1, 2019:

**AB 2109 Pupils:** Pupils with a temporary disability: Individual Instruction: Pupils who are terminally ill: Honorary Diploma. This bill ensures that students who have been hospitalized or receiving instruction at home due to a serious illness are able to return to school in a timely manner or to attend school on days that they are not receiving treatment, and authorizes schools to grant honorary diplomas to student who are terminally ill.

**AB 2239 Pupil Instruction:** World Language Courses: A-G Course Certification. This bill would require the CDE to encourage the governing board of each school district and the governing body of each charter school, whose schools offer world language courses that are specifically designed for native speakers that are not approved as "A-G" courses, to support their respective schools in submitting those courses to the UC for certification and addition to schools "A-G" course list.

**AB 1798 School buses:** Passenger Restraint Systems: This bill requires that on or before July 1, 2035, all school buses in use in California be equipped with a passenger restraint system.

We were watching two bills on funding AB 3136 special education funding and AB 2808 Educational Finance increasing the LCFF funding level. **Both of these bills failed approval by the legislature.**