

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

February 8, 2023

TOPIC: DRAFT Legislative Update

PRESENTED BY:

Fiona Lytle, Chief Communications Officer, Legislative Liaison; Moira Cullen, The Capstone Group; and Jason Hopfer, JLH Public Affairs; and Mary Alice Mandarich

EXPLANATION:

On January 9th, 2023, Colorado's 74th General Assembly convened for the legislative session.

On January 10th, Dr. Lance Bolton from PPSC testified before the Joint Business Committee on behalf of CCCS per reporting requirements in [SB18-086 Cyber Coding Cryptology For State Records](#).

On January 12th, Chancellor Garcia testified before the Joint Budget Committee on behalf of the System to advocate for funding and priority projects. Link to Chancellor Garcia's testimony is [here](#). CCCS leadership has testified on four other bills this session.

OSPB update, continuation of projects

Governor's Budget Amendment:

On January 3rd, Governor Polis released additional budget recommendations, including a \$70 million Workforce Proposal ([linked here](#), page 17). This recommendation is focused on addressing the state's workforce needs, and includes \$40 million for investments in zero-cost community college for Colorado's in-demand jobs, such as education, health care, construction trades, fire fighters, law enforcement and early childhood education. (This will be similar to the Care Forward Colorado program.)

Governor's FY 2023-24 Budget Investments in Workforce and Jobs		
Skilled Workforce for Today's and Tomorrow's Jobs		
CDHE	Zero-cost Credentials to Support Colorado's Workforce	\$40.0M
OEDIT	High School Scholarships to Support Colorado's Workforce	\$25.0M
CDHE	Expansion of Short-Term Nursing Programs	\$5.0M
CDE	Concurrent Enrollment Expansion	\$5.0M

- **\$40.0M** to provide zero-cost postsecondary education and training at Colorado's community colleges, district colleges and area technical colleges to help close the gap between supply and demand for high-skill, priority credentials in critical sectors of our economy including early childhood, education, law enforcement, fire and forestry, construction trades, advanced manufacturing, and nursing. This investment will go towards waiving tuition and fees, as well as providing financial support for books and supplies, for students in need of financial aid. This financial support will save people money and make postsecondary education and training accessible and affordable to more Coloradans who can upskill and reskill to get to high-paying and in-demand jobs. This investment is expected to benefit 20,000 Coloradans pursuing advanced education and training in the next 2 years.
- **\$5.0M** to expand short-term nursing programs at community colleges to be able to graduate a larger number of skilled nurses to support the workforce needs of local hospitals.
- \$25.0M for a pilot program for scholarships for high school graduates and equivalent completers to pursue an approved postsecondary education or training of their choice. Unfortunately, the percentage of high school graduates pursuing postsecondary education or training has decreased since the beginning of the pandemic. This pilot will build on the good work of Opportunity Now, which will help to build and sustain regional leadership around building in-demand jobs across our state. This investment will help to ensure that Colorado is a place where all students can thrive regardless of the path they choose after graduation.
- \$5.0M to support Colorado school districts and charter schools in adopting robust policies around concurrent enrollment, advanced coursework, career and technical education, and other opportunities tied to success in postsecondary education and career.

Bills being monitored by CCCS:

212 bills have been introduced and CCCS is tracking 23 bills (and reviewing several draft legislation.) The table below list bills that CCCS is monitoring as of January 31st.

#	Bill (linked to General Assembly website bill page)
1	HB23-1001 Expanding Assistance For Educator Programs
2	HB23-1006 Employer Notice Of Income Tax Credits
3	HB23-1007 Higher Education Crisis And Suicide Prevention
4	HB23-1037 Department Of Corrections Earned Time For College Program Completion
5	HB23-1057 Amenities For All Genders In Public Buildings
6	HB23-1083 Qualified Higher Education Expenses Aviation Training
7	HB23-1092 Limiting Use Of State Money
8	HB23-1093 Higher Education Staff Sabbaticals
9	HB23-1064 Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact
10	HB23-1074 Study Workforce Transitions To Other Industries
11	HB23-1063 Reduction Of State Income Tax Rate
12	HB23-1114 First-generation-serving Higher Education Institutions
13	SB23-003 Colorado Adult High School Program
14	SB23-005 Forestry and Wildlife Mitigation Workforce
15	SB23-006 Creation Of The Rural Opportunity Office
16	SB23-007 Adult Education
17	SB23-031 Improve Health-care Access For Older Coloradans
18	SB23-048 Non-tenured Track Faculty
19	SB23-051 Conforming Workforce Development Statutes
20	SB23-053 Restrict Governmental Nondisclosure Agreements
21	SB23-058 Job Application Fairness Act
22	SB23-065 Career Development Success Program
23	SB23-084 Full-time Employment For Higher Education Faculty

Page left intentionally blank.

RECOMMENDATION:

No Board action required.

ATTACHMENT(S):