

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION
February 9th, 2022

TOPIC: 2022 Legislative Session Report

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 12, 2022, Colorado’s 73rd General Assembly reconvened for their second regular legislative session. With the General Assembly no longer under Joint Rule 44, the clock has started and will run for 120 consecutive days and conclude on Wednesday, May 11th.

In January, Chancellor Garcia testified before the Joint Budget Committee on behalf of the System to advocate for funding and priority projects. Pikes Peak Community College President, Dr. Bolton, testified before the Joint Business Committee as part of the SMART Act hearings along with several other higher education institutions who receive state funding for cyber projects per Senate Bill 18-086.

On February 3, the Joint Technology Committee discussed prioritization of FY-23 IT capital requests. CCCS’s “Rural College Consortium for IT Infrastructure” was prioritized and recommended for full funding (\$8.6M). The project will benefit six rural colleges, CNCC, LCC, MCC, NJC, OC, and TSC, in modernizing their technology infrastructure and allowing those colleges to link through technology to share instruction and student support services.

On February 10, the Capital Development Committee is scheduled to discuss prioritization of FY-23 capital construction requests. The annual prioritization of capital projects by the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB), in December of 2021, yielded recommendations for funding three CCCS projects, listed below, and funding for all three levels of controlled maintenance.

CCCS projects prioritized for funding by OSPB are:

College	Capital Construction Project Description	FY 2022-23 Total Cost
LCC	Bowman Building Capital Renewal Project (Phase 1 of 2; \$3.9M, \$5.8M out year)	\$9.8M
TSC	Freudenthal Library Renovation (Phase 2 of 2 – Continuation Project)	\$1.2M

CCD	Boulder Creek Health Education Center of Excellence (Phase 3 of 3 – Continuation Project)	\$22.9M
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Update on CCCS-initiated bills:

LPN-to-BSN Bridge Program

CCCS seeks to amend its role and mission statute to allow interested colleges the option to offer a LPN-to-BSN bridge program. The intent of the legislation is to offer a pathway for licensed practical nurse (LPN) students to earn a BSN.

Bill updates:

- On January 12th, the bill was introduced and assigned to Senate Education Committee.
- Bill title: SB22-003 “Community College Nursing Bachelor Degree Eligibility”
- Prime Sponsors: Senator Janet Buckner and Kerry Donovan, Representatives Kyle Mullica and Tony Exum
- SB22-003 is scheduled for Senate Education Committee on Wednesday, February 9th upon adjournment

Pikes Peak Community College Name Change

CCCS seeks to change the name of Pikes Peak Community College to “Pikes Peak State College.” This effort is being led by PPCC leadership and has tremendous support from their campus and local community. The intent of the legislation is to support PPCC’s efforts to modernize their name and increase their value-perception among students and employers, and to effectively market the institution to help foster enrollment growth, build partnerships, and increase overall competitiveness in the Colorado Springs region. The proposed legislation would not change PPCC’s role and mission.

Bill updates:

- Received approval from Legislative Leadership to be introduced as a late bill.
- Prime Sponsor: Representative Marc Snyder.
- Bill is in draft and expected to be introduced in late February.

CCCS lobbyists will give the Board a brief summary of happenings under the dome and provide insight on bills and initiatives on the horizon affecting higher education.

Bills being monitored by CCCS:

Of the 250+ bills that have been introduced so far, CCCS is monitoring 16 bills. The table below lists bills that CCCS is monitoring as of 2/2/2022.

#	Bill (linked to General Assembly website bill page)
1	HB22-1002 Fifth Year High School Concurrent Enrollment

2	<u>HB22-1009 Continue Workforce Diploma Pilot Program</u>
3	<u>HB22-1010 Early Childhood Educator Income Tax Credit</u>
4	<u>HB22-1029 Compensatory Direct Distribution To Public Employees' Retirement Association</u>
5	<u>HB22-1049 Prohibiting Transcript And Diploma Withholding</u>
6	<u>HB22-1107 Inclusive Higher Education Opportunities</u>
7	<u>HB22-1119 Colorado False Claims Act</u>
8	<u>HB22-1129 General Fund Surplus Rebates To Taxpayers</u>
9	<u>SB22-003 Community College Nursing Bachelor Degree Eligibility</u>
10	<u>SB22-004 Evidence-based Training In Science Of Reading</u>
11	<u>SB22-008 Higher Education Support For Foster Youth</u>
12	<u>SB22-013 Boards And Commissions</u>
13	<u>SB22-056 UNC Osteopathic Medicine Degrees</u>
14	<u>SB22-058 Dental Hygienists Peer Health Assistance Program</u>
15	<u>SB22-088 Tuition Assistance For Building Trade Certificates</u>
16	<u>SB22-109 Prohibit Labor Actions Against Public Employers</u>

RECOMMENDATION:

No action required.