

Date of Hearing: August 22, 2012

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
Das Williams, Chair  
ACR 164 (Pan) – As Introduced: August 6, 2012

SUBJECT: California State University: chancellor selection process.

SUMMARY: Encourages the recruitment and selection process for the next Chancellor of the California State University (CSU) to be done in a publicly inclusive manner. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Makes numerous declarations and findings, including the following:
  - a) The search for the next Chancellor of the CSU is the recruitment and hiring process for one of the most important public jobs in the state.
  - b) Members of the CSU Board of Trustees (Board) should not conduct the search for the new chancellor alone, without the input of the public.
  - c) The CSU community, which includes students, parents, faculty, and staff, should all be given a chance to participate and provide their needed and valuable input during the selection process.
  - d) The search for a chancellor should be conducted before the people, at campus-based forums, in public settings, and with access and outreach to as wide an array of people as possible.
  - e) Finalists for the position should be willing to participate in an open process.
- 2) Recognizes the Chancellor for the CSU as being tasked with the responsibility of leading one of the largest public postsecondary education systems in the world.
- 3) Emphasizes that the CSU is at a critical juncture and is in the midst of economic pressures due to decreased funding, a growing student population, and an unprecedented era of awareness and public interest in the administration of the CSU.
- 4) Requests the Legislature to encourage the recruitment and selection process for the next Chancellor of the CSU to be done in a publicly inclusive manner.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown. This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by the Legislative Counsel.

COMMENTS: Background. The CSU is comprised of 23 campuses with over 40,000 faculty and staff and over 420,000 students. In May of this year, current CSU Chancellor Charles Reed announced that he would retire after 14 years in his position. Chancellor Reed is expected to remain in his position until the Board names his successor. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the CSU. The Board adopts rules, regulations, and policies governing the CSU.

Chancellor search committee. On June 12, 2012, the Board announced the creation of the Trustees' Special Committee for the Selection of the Chancellor (Committee). The Committee is comprised of eight CSU Board of Trustees members; the membership includes a faculty, student and alumni representative. The Committee held its first meeting on June 28, 2012 to receive input from CSU stakeholders and the public regarding the search for the new Chancellor.

On August 21, 2012, the Committee held a closed session meeting to consider candidate qualifications. To note, at the time this analysis went to print, information regarding the outcome of the Committee's meeting could not be determined.

The Committee has set up a special e-mail account and Facebook page for the public to send suggestions and questions. The public can email the Committee at: [chancellorsearch@calstate.edu](mailto:chancellorsearch@calstate.edu). The public can join the conversation on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/calstate/app\\_6009294086](http://www.facebook.com/calstate/app_6009294086).

The Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. Known as "the Act" or "the Bagley-Keene Act", set forth in *Government Code* § 11120-111321, covers all state boards and commissions. Generally, it requires these bodies to publicly notice their meetings, prepare agendas, accept public testimony and conduct their meetings in public unless specifically authorized by the Act to meet in closed session. The Board, its standing committees and subcommittees, as well as the Academic Senate, its standing committees and subcommittees are subject to the Act.

Need for this bill. According to the author, "The aim [of ACR 164] is to have a transparent, inclusive process to ensure the Chancellor who is selected will have the trust and support of the public."

The California Faculty Association (CFA), sponsor of the measure states, "In light of recent cuts to our public higher education system and massive increases in tuition at the CSUs, it is important that the next CSU Chancellor be selected in an open and public forum. An open selection process will allow for the involvement and participation of the CSU community, which includes students, parents, faculty, and staff. In a time where student fees are increasing and public scrutiny is high, it is imperative that the selection process is as diverse, transparent and inclusive as possible." The CFA recently conducted a member survey with other members of the CSU regarding the qualities that they would like to see in the next Chancellor. According to the CFA, the findings suggested that the CSU faculty members want the next Chancellor to have a commitment to shared governance, collective bargaining process, a proven record of public higher education leadership and other qualities.

#### REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

##### Support

California Faculty Association (sponsor)

##### Opposition

None on file.

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