LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 2:00 P.M.

I. Call To Order/ Roll Call

Commissioner Yvonne de la Peña called the meeting to order at 2:04 P.M.

Members present: Yvonne de la Peña, Paul Von Berg, Christopher Christophersen, Hector Velez, Jack Buckhorn, and Chief Diane Ravnik

A quorum was met.

Members absent: Aram Hodess, Richard Harris, and Carl Goff

II. Review/Approve Minutes – October 29, 2014

1. Commissioner Jack Buckhorn made motion to approve the October 29, 2014 minutes. Commissioner Paul Von Berg seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

III. Budget Bill SB 69 2014 - 2015

Commissioner de la Peña reported that SB 69 was recently passed which restored the funding that was previously cut. The new bill increases the hourly rate to $5.46 for non-credit rate for community college. The K-12 is increased by $4.7M (31% increase) and the community colleges was increased by $9.2M (129% increase). Within the $2.0M for the community colleges there is an additional appropriation of $15M for new programs. This results in approximately 639,000 more hours for the K-12 and for the Chancellor’s Office approximately 2.1 million more hours.

Commissioner de la Peña encouraged the attendees to look over the bill for any possible changes and bring them to the next meeting. She further stated that the Firefighters would be putting together a proposal and would be pleased to share with the apprenticeship community.

There was discussion on what happens to funds that are not spent. The current language says that un funded goes to its own line item first and then crosses to the other line item if they are still un funded. It is still unknown what happens to the $15M for new programs, if it is not spent.

John Dunn CCCCO stated that the Chancellor’s office is putting together a draft on what the $15M might be spent on in “new and innovative approaches”, which would include some administrative funding, research of effectiveness of apprenticeship and the turn on investment for contractors and employers.
Chief Ravnik commented that perhaps some of the money could be used for journeymen upgrade energy efficiency, certifications, continuing education, and accreditation which would bring recognition to the apprenticeship community.

Commissioner de la Peña asked how the federal monies fit into what is current in the “new and innovative programs”. Mr. Dunn stated that the applications are not due until the end of April. The federal monies will go directly to the program sponsors.

Chief Ravnik stated that the enhancement of the States’ budget is good timing because the federal grants are interested in sustainability of the new programs that they will be funding. Programs need to be federally registered in order to receive the funds.

With regards to the new bill Commissioner de la Peña anticipates the Chancellor’s office to propose some changes. She noted that there are portions of the Education Code that were referenced before, such as certification that are tied to the bill currently, but are not referenced in this new bill.

IV. AB 86
Commissioner de la Peña stated that the proposed increase in the adult education block grant is $500M. Apprenticeship is one of the five groups. Apprenticeship does not get a part of the $500M. The appropriations for the block grant are under the Chancellor’s office under a different section. John Dunn CCCCOC stated that it is up to the local consortium. For example if the local adult education consortia chooses to use some of their money they get out of the $500M to support apprenticeship programs that they currently work with that are in their region or that are create new ones, they can do that. Mr. Dunn encourages the apprenticeship community to become familiar with their local consortia as this could be another avenue for funding.

Commissioner de la Peña further stated what AB 86 establishes is the coordination between LEAs and community colleges.

V. Review of New and Pending Bills
There are no new or pending bills at this time. Commissioner de la Peña asked the attendees to send her any information on issues they would like to discuss.

VI. Adjournment
A motion and a second were made to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.