



HACU

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A S S O C I A T I O N
O F C O L L E G E S &
U N I V E R S I T I E S

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * **June 14-15, 2007**
[Prepárate: Educating Latinos for the Future of America](#), The College Board, Los Angeles, CA
- * **July 26, 2007**
[HACU's National Internship Program \(HNIP\) 15th Anniversary Gala](#), Washington D.C.
- * **October 20-22, 2007**
[HACU 21st Annual Conference](#),
"Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: A National Imperative for the 21st Century"
Chicago, IL

**If you would like us to include your events in the newsletter, please send an email with event details to wro@hacu.net.*

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HACU WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

June 13, 2007

HACU Western Regional Office's (WRO) page is updated regularly to keep our institutions informed on their respective Legislature's progress. You can find the WRO page under the Government Relations tab on www.hacu.net. On the [WRO main page](#), you can navigate through the five states we represent in the Western Region. In the [California](#) section, you will find a table with all of the bills we are monitoring and supporting/opposing this legislative session.

HACU is greatly appreciative of the Senate and Assembly Budget Committees for restoring funding for academic preparation programs, which are vital to the success of Latino students. We look forward to seeing those funds in the final version of the budget signed by the Governor.

HACU continues to be concerned about the impact the Governor's decision to sell [EdFund](#) will have on financial aid awareness programs. The Governor's May revision had proposed cutting the \$8.6 million used for financial aid awareness programs by \$3.6 million. We are grateful that these funds were restored by the Budget Committees but are concerned about the future of these programs during tougher financial years.

At this point, subcommittees from both houses have already ended their hearings. The Budget Conference Committee has embarked on extensive hearings to attempt to reconcile their differences. Senators [Denise Ducheny](#), [Michael Machado](#), [Dennis Hollingsworth](#), and Assembly Members [John Laird](#), [Mark Leno](#), and [Roger Niello](#) are the Legislators appointed to the Conference Committee. [HACU Budget Conference Committee Letter](#)

APPROPRIATIONS: We originally had a total of 29 bills on the suspense file, 8 we were supporting and 21 we were monitoring. Bills that did not make it off of suspense will become two year bills and will be given another opportunity next session. Of the bills we were supporting, the following bills passed out of committee:

- ◆ [AB 178](#), High Schools: College Readiness and Equity Pilot Program ([Coto](#))
- ◆ [AB 428](#), High school curriculum: college preparatory courses ([Carter](#))
- ◆ [AB 1540](#), Student financial aid: Cash for College Program ([Bass](#))
 - ◆ [SB 405](#), Curriculum: opportunities for pupils ([Steinberg](#))
 - ◆ [SB 890](#), Early College Commitment Program ([Scott](#))

HACU was disappointed that the two student sponsored financial aid bills were held in committee ([AB 175](#) and [AB 302](#)). However, we will continue to work with the authors and committee members in hopes of passing these important measures in the next legislative session.

Last week the Legislature was faced with a deadline to pass all bills out of their house of origin. The following bills were approved in their respective house and will now be considered in the other house: [AB 178](#); [AB 428](#); [AB 1540](#); [SB 405](#); and [SB 890](#).

*Upcoming Legislative Deadlines: **June 15**—Budget Bill must be passed by midnight. **July 13**—Last day for Policy Committees to hear bills.*

**If there is a specific bill or issue you would like us to consider, please do not hesitate to contact our office .*