



Student Senate Regular Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 13, 2026, 2:15 pm

In-Person: Center for Equity, Leadership and Community Building 17, Room 146
College of San Mateo; 1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd.; San Mateo, CA 94402

Via Zoom: Join Link: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/87322912320>
Dial-In Number: (669) 444-9171 | Webinar ID: 873 2291 2320

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend ASCSM Student Senate meetings. All meetings are open to the public and are accessible to those with disabilities. Start times are approximate. The public may address the Student Senate on non-Agenda items during the Announcements and Hearing of the Public items on the agenda. Members of the public may participate in discussions only when recognized by the chair. The Student Senate reserves the right to suspend the orders of the day if necessary to conduct business.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Approval of the Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

5. Announcements and Hearings of the Public

During this time, members of the public may address the Senate on non-agenda items. Limit of 15 minutes per topic and 3 minutes per speaker.

6. Reports

a. Officers

- i. President Jaden Nguyen
- ii. Vice President Jing Ee Ong
- iii. Finance Director Moe Thanzin Cho
- iv. Vice Chair Leticia Dominguez
- v. Secretary Geiziane Da Silva Dos Santos
- vi. District Student Trustee Michael Llanell

b. Senators

Including reports from ASCSM boards and committees, ASCSM task forces, college and district participatory governance committees, and other boards, committees, or organizations.

c. College of San Mateo Administration

Including the college president, the vice president of student services, members of the executive leadership team, deans, and any other college administrators wishing to report to the Student Senate.

d. Advisors

- i. Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager
- ii. Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant
- iii. Mondana Bathai, Student Life Staff Assistant

7. Appointments – President Nguyen

The Senate shall discuss and consider any and all appointments and/or recommended appointments to the Student Senate, ASCSM Boards and/or task forces, any College and/or District participatory governance committees, and/or any other appointments that may be deemed necessary. Possible action to take place.

8. Funding for Cupcake Wars – CSM Culinary Club

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the Cupcake Wars event organized by the CSM Culinary Club. Possible action to take place.

9. Funding for Thrifting Event #2 – SAGE Club

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the Thrifting Event #2 organized by the SAGE Club. Possible action to take place.

10. Funding for End-of-Semester & Graduation/Transfer Celebration – Brazilian Club

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the End-of-Semester & Graduation/Transfer Celebration organized by the Brazilian Club. Possible action to take place.

11. Funding for World Gala – Chinese Student Scholars Association

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the World Gala organized by the Chinese Students Scholars Association. Possible action to take place.

12. Endorsement of ASCSM Advocacy Board Legislative Bill Recommendations – Advocacy Board

The Senate shall discuss and consider endorsing the recommendations from the Advocacy Board on legislative bills for the Washington, DC, advocacy trip. Possible action to take place.

13. Funding for ASCSM 2026 Banquet – Associated Students of College of San Mateo

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the ASCSM 2026 Banquet organized by the Associated Students of College of San Mateo. Possible action to take place.

14. Funding for Election Outreach and Promotional Events – Associated Students of College of San Mateo

The Senate shall discuss and consider the proposal to fund the Election Outreach and Promotional Events organized by the Associated Students of College of San Mateo. Possible action to take place.

15. Past Event Debrief

The Senate shall discuss and provide feedback on the following events and/or activities:

- a. Drag Show
- b. Snoozefest

16. Future Agenda Items

During this time, members of the Senate may suggest agenda items for consideration for future meetings.

17. Final Announcements and Hearing of the Public

During this time, members of the Senate and the public may voice any concluding comments. Limit of 15 minutes per topic and 3 minutes per speaker.

18. Adjournment



Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes (Unapproved)

Monday, April 6, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 2:18 pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Jaden Nguyen, Vice-President Jing Ee Ong, Finance Director Moe Thanzin Cho, Secretary Geiziane Santos, Senators Jeremiah David, Alia Ejiri, Ryan Farzaneh, Honey Hin, Lauren Hong, Alyssa Jose, Juna Lee, Lukas Real, Nyam Simm Sett, Ameer Dababo, Maylani Fiel, Alfonso Villalvazo, Justin Gomez, Thiri Thu, Finola Miqailla, Maylani Fiel, Ameer Dababo

Members Absent: Vice Chair Leticia Dominguez, Senators Aung Phone Kyaw, Hanna Sevilla

Advisors Present: Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager; Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant

Others Present: Alex Guiriba, CSM Vice President of Student Services

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Hong, seconded by Senator Villalvazo. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of March 23, 2026, Senate meeting by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Farzaneh. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC

None

REPORTS

President Nguyen reported that the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) took place from Friday, March 27th to Sunday, March 29th, and noted that additional information about the event will be shared later in the meeting.

Vice President Ee Ong reported that ASCSM Elections applications are now open and due on Wednesday, April 15th at 4:30 p.m. She emphasized that the Mandatory Candidates Meeting is required for all applicants and will take place on Friday, April 17th, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. She also congratulated the Equity Affairs Board on the successful Women's History Month event, and noted that the CSM Drag Show will take place on Wednesday, April 8th. Additionally, she reported that Campus Life and Leadership Awards nominations are due on Friday, April 10th at 4:30 p.m., and that the last Senate meeting will take place on May 4th.

Secretary Santos thanked Senators Lee and Fiel for cleaning the Senate room last week. She also reported that Senator Miqailla and Finance Director Thanzin Cho will be cleaning the Senate room this week.

Senator Hong reported that the final Equity Affairs event of the semester will be the CSM Drag Show, taking place on Wednesday, April 8th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Building 10, Bayview Dining Hall. A SignUpGenius is available, and significant assistance will be needed.

Senator Jose reported that the Snoozefest event will take place on Thursday, April 9th, and requested assistance from those available. She also noted that APACC is currently seeking vendors for an upcoming event and encouraged members to share recommendations.

Senator Gomez reported that the Professional Development Committee met on Friday, March 27th, where topics such as the upcoming Flex Day were discussed. A ceramic mud painting workshop is being planned to encourage communication between faculty and students about campus improvements. Members interested in participating were encouraged to reach out.

Senator Villalvazo reported that there are plans to allow students to major in Data Science. He also noted that one art degree will be removed from applicable degrees, and that there are plans to introduce new AI-related classes.

Senator Miqailla reported that the Sustainability Department will host Earth Fest on April 15th and is seeking volunteers. The volunteer link is available through SMCCD Sustainability, and the event offers a strong networking opportunity.

Alex Guiriba, Vice President of Student Services, reported the following:

- Welcomed everyone back from Spring Break.
- Noted that he will be unable to attend the Senate meeting next week due to participation in a panel representing CSM.
- Announced that the Open Forum for the Vice President of Instruction will take place this week and emphasized the importance of student voice in this process. Members were strongly encouraged to attend.
- Reported that one parking lot has been closed due to the start of the student housing project, and emphasized the importance of student input.
- Shared that SamTrans has reached out to explore ways to better support the college, including the possibility of providing shuttle services between district campuses.
- Noted that eligibility requirements for student housing are still under discussion and have not yet been finalized.

Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager, reported:

- Welcomed everyone back from Spring Break.
- Noted that there are five weeks of Senate meetings remaining and encouraged support for upcoming events.
- Reminded members running for office that attendance at the Mandatory Candidates Meeting is required, regardless of prior experience.
- Announced that the Campus Leadership Award application is now available and due on Friday, April 10th, emphasizing quality over quantity.

Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant, reported the following:

- Applications for the Student Commencement Speaker are due on Friday, April 10th. Only graduating students participating in commencement are eligible.
- ASCSM Elections applications are due on Wednesday, April 15th at 4:30 p.m.
- The Mandatory Candidates Meeting will take place on Friday, April 17th, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

FUNDING FOR CUPCAKE WARS – CSM CULINARY CLUB

No club representative present. Tabled until next meeting.

FUNDING FOR THRIFTING EVENT #2 – SAGE CLUB

No club representative present. Tabled until next meeting.

FUNDING FOR SMCCD HACKATHON – CSM GIRLS WHO CODE

Motion to fund \$600 from the ICC/ Club Assistance (5031) account for the SMCCD Hackathon first by Senator Gomez and second by Senator Hong. The event will take place between April 17th and April 24th, with the closing ceremony held at the CSM campus. Prizes will be awarded by category and distributed among winning teams. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

FUNDING FOR SPRING FLING – PROGRAMMING BOARD

Motion to fund \$11600 from the Programs (5150) account for the Spring Fling first by Senator Hong and second by Senator Lee. The event will take place on April 29th at 12:00 p.m. at Building 10, Bayview Dining Hall, with approximately 300 attendees expected. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

PAST EVENT DEBRIEF

a. Women of the Past: Interactive Wax Museum:

- The event was reported as a success, with strong participation and positive engagement. Appreciation was expressed for the level of support and collaborative effort.
- There were minor challenges involving facilities; however, staff were flexible and responsive despite short notice. Special recognition was given to the Public Relations team for their work on flyers and posters, as well as to Fauzi for ensuring all materials were printed in time.
- The event was described as one of the best of the year, with high engagement and positive feedback regarding the food. Overall, it was considered a meaningful experience.

Area for improvement:

- Last-minute layout changes created challenges in organizing the exhibition flow for attendees.

b. Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SCCC):

- The overall experience was described as disorganized and inefficient, particularly on the first day. Workshops were noted as less engaging and not fully aligned with the event's purpose.
- The **resolutions and debates** were identified as the most valuable component, providing structured discussion and decision-making opportunities.
- Participation during sessions was at times chaotic, including unclear nomination processes, disruptions during motions, and repeated unsuccessful proposals. Additionally, networking opportunities were limited despite expectations.

Recommendation:

- Consider attending only the resolution sessions in the future, as they were the most meaningful and may be accessible without full conference participation.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Advocacy Bills from Sacramento Trip

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

- On **Wednesday, April 8th**, an District **Chancellor** Moreno will be attending the Advocacy Board meeting. Those interested in speaking are encouraged to attend the advocacy meeting at **2:10 p.m.**

- No new club applications are being accepted for the **Spring 2026 semester**. Applications for **Fall 2026 clubs** are now being accepted.

ADJOURNMENT 🇺🇸

Motion to adjourn at 2:55 p.m. by Senator Hong; seconded by Senator Fiel. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Geiziane Santos
ASCSM Secretary

Agenda Item #7: Appointments

The Senate shall discuss and consider any and all appointments and/or recommended appointments to the Student Senate, ASCSM Boards and/or task forces, any College and/or District participatory governance committees, and/or any other appointments that may be deemed necessary. Possible action to take place.

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name	CSM Culinary Club
Event or Request Title	CSM Culinary Club: Cupcake Wars
Application Contact Name	Ayla Baghirova
Application Contact Email	baghirova1@my.smccd.edu
Event or Request Description	We want to organize an event for students to customize and create their own cupcakes in groups of 4-5 students. Each team competing will learn how to best decorate cupcakes and their designs will be judged in a friendly competition with other teams. This event is meant to get students to learn about pastry decorating while also building meaningful connections on campus.
Event Date and Time	Apr 10, 2026 12:30 PM
Event Location	CSM Library Makerspace
Estimated Attendance	35
How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?	This event supports the mission and purpose of our club as it teaches students about an important skill in culinary education which is cupcake/pastry decorating. This allows students to express their creative and artistic side while also making friends and learning new skills from each other.
What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?	I want students to take away that decorating cupcakes and cakes in general is a useful skill to have in life and through this event, they will hopefully learn new techniques and processes that are involved in pastry decorating. I hope that students come out of this event with new knowledge and also new connections with other students in their community.
Please explain how you will promote and market this event.	We plan to design a poster with event details such as date, time, location and a cartoon image of cupcakes so that people can easily understand what the event is about. We will also include a brief description of the event in the flyer. We will be posting about this event on our club Instagram account.
Item #1 - Description	Cupcakes

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount 200

Item #2 - Description Toppings

Item #2 - Requested Funding Amount 150

Item #3 - Description Boba Drinks

Item #3 - Requested Funding Amount 100

Item #4 - Description Supplies

Item #4 - Requested Funding Amount 50

Total Funding Request 500

Form Name:
Submission Time:

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations
March 18, 2026 3:15 pm

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name	SAGE Club
Event or Request Title	Thrifting event #2
Application Contact Name	Amir Rymzhanov
Application Contact Email	rymzhanova1@my.smccd.edu
Event or Request Description	This event is organized to raise awareness of problems around fast fashion, overconsumption and clothing waste. We will be providing free thrifted clothes/clothes from our friends to students and talking about these important issues + how we all can contribute to systemic change.
Event Date and Time	Apr 28, 2026 11:00 AM
Event Location	In front of building 10
Estimated Attendance	150
How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?	As a sustainability club, we seek to promote and educate students on the effects of fast fashion, and ways to promote sustainability
What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?	First of all, we're planning to leave our attendees with new pieces of clothing that would otherwise end up in the landfill. Our hope is that our visitors gain awareness of the environmental impact that large companies such as Shein and Temu have on our society, while making it an entertaining and educational event.
Please explain how you will promote and market this event.	We plan to print out a multitude of flyers that'd be available to see in crowded areas. As per usual, we plan to promote our event by asking our fellow clubs to repost our promotional material for our event. On top of that, word of mouth will play a huge role in the advertisement of our event.
Please upload a copy of a flyer promoting this event.	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19298695264
Please upload an agenda for the event (it is OK if this is in draft or outline form).	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19298695265
Item #1 - Description	Boba (90 servings)

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount	450
Item #2 - Description	50 pins
Item #2 - Requested Funding Amount	20
Item #3 - Description	Reusable Linen Straw pouches
Item #3 - Requested Funding Amount	40
Item #4 - Description	customizable stickers
Item #4 - Requested Funding Amount	60
Item #5 - Description	Pin-maker
Item #5 - Requested Funding Amount	40
Total Funding Request	610

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name

Brazilian Club

Event or Request Title

End-of-Semester & Graduation/Transfer Celebration

Application Contact Name

Bianca Pires Reges

Application Contact Email

biancapiresreges@my.smccd.edu

Event or Request Description

The Brazilian Club is proposing an End-of-Semester Celebration combined with a special recognition event for students who are graduating or transferring this semester.

The purpose of this event is to honor the hard work, dedication, and achievements of these students, while also creating a space for community building, cultural appreciation, and connection among students on campus. It will be an opportunity for members, friends, and the broader campus community to come together and celebrate the conclusion of the semester.

The event will feature Brazilian food, providing a welcoming and culturally rich experience for attendees and allowing participants to engage with and enjoy Brazilian culture.

To successfully host this event, we are requesting \$600 in funding, which will be used primarily to cover the cost of Brazilian food and essential event supplies. We expect 40-50 people to come.

We believe this event will have a positive impact by fostering inclusion, celebrating student success, and strengthening our campus community.

Event Date and Time

May 07, 2026 12:30 PM

Event Location

Building 18 room 112

Estimated Attendance

40

How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?

This event supports the mission and purpose of the Brazilian Club by not only celebrating the achievements of Brazilian students who are graduating or transferring, but also by strengthening our community and encouraging continued student involvement.

In addition to recognizing students who have been accepted into universities, the event helps attract new members to the club by creating a welcoming and engaging environment. It also plays an important role in building the future leadership of the club, as it encourages newer members to get involved and consider participating in the next administration.

Furthermore, the event provides an opportunity for students who are planning to transfer in the coming years to ask questions, gain insights, and learn from those who have already gone through the process. This exchange of experiences helps support academic success and informed decision-making within our community.

Overall, the event promotes connection, mentorship, cultural pride, and long-term sustainability of the Brazilian Club.

What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?

We want students and the campus community to take away a sense of opportunity, connection, and empowerment from this event.

One important takeaway is encouraging students to become more actively involved in the Brazilian Club, including taking on leadership roles such as president, vice president, or treasurer. By engaging directly with current members and leaders, students can see how they can contribute to the club's future and growth.

Additionally, we want attendees to benefit from the chance to ask questions and have personal conversations with students who are transferring. Since each student's transfer journey can be different, hearing these experiences firsthand can provide valuable insight into the application process.

For students considering transferring-especially those focused on a specific university-this event can help clarify the process and support their decision-making, making them feel more confident and prepared for their next steps.

Overall, we hope participants leave feeling informed, inspired, and more connected to both the Brazilian Club and the broader campus community.

Please explain how you will promote and market this event.

We will promote and market this event by distributing flyers across campus in high-traffic areas to reach a wide range of students. In addition, we will use Instagram to share posts and stories about the event, helping us reach both current members and the broader student community.

By combining in-person promotion with social media outreach, we aim to maximize visibility and encourage strong attendance.

Please upload a copy of a flyer promoting this event.

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19322545172>

Please upload an agenda for the event (it is OK if this is in draft or outline form).

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19322545173>

Item #1 - Description

Brazilian Food

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount	600
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Total Funding Request	600
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ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name

Chinese Student Scholars Association

Event or Request Title

World Gala

Application Contact Name

Jing Ee Ong

Application Contact Email

ongj2@my.smccd.edu

Event or Request Description

World Gala is a vibrant celebration of cultures from around the world, featuring incredible student performances, delicious international cuisines, and an unforgettable evening of cultural appreciation. World Gala is our annual event that happens every Spring semester to showcase international student culture and talent to the CSM community.

Event Date and Time

May 01, 2026 05:00 PM

Event Location

Bayview Dining Hall

Estimated Attendance

300

How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?

This event highlight the role of CSSA in supporting the large Chinese student population on campus by creating opportunities for them to stay connected with their community while also engaging with the broader student body. It provides a space where Chinese students can share their culture and, at the same time, learn about and appreciate cultures from around the world. By collaborating with the International Education Program to host the World Gala, CSSA actively supports a diverse and welcoming campus environment. Through cultural performances and international cuisine, the event encourages interaction across different communities and strengthens connections among students from diverse backgrounds.

What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?

By showcasing performances from students around the world, this event features the richness of different cultures and foster a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity within the campus community. This event seeks to create a space for everyone to engage with cultures different from their own, promote cross-cultural understanding and foster a sense of belonging. Ultimately, the goal of this event is to let everyone feel connected and inspired by the cultural diversity that shapes our community.

Please explain how you will promote and market this event.

We will put up posters around the campus to notify students about the event. In addition, we will actively promote the event through our social media platforms, including Instagram, etc.

Please upload a copy of a flyer promoting this event.

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19326472235>

Please upload an agenda for the event (it is OK if this is in draft or outline form).

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19326472236>

Item #1 - Description

Food

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount

1000

Total Funding Request

1000

ASCSM Legislative Bill Report submitted by

Ryan Farzaneh

Email

ryanfarzaneh@my.smccd.edu

Bill Name

Workforce Of the Future Act

Bill Number

HR 6621

Bill Sponsor(s)

Emanuel Cleaver (Democrat, Missouri)

Bill Co-Sponsor(s) from California (if any)

Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-6]

Purpose of Bill

As we enter 2026, the impact of AI on the workforce is undeniable due to the rapid integration of AI in modern workflows. The issue facing the Colleges today is the "skills gap", the disconnect between the workforce's current abilities and the demands of the modern AI economy. Without targeted funds being used to help community colleges meet this demand, it risks leaving those from underrepresented backgrounds unprepared for current trends.

Bill Description

H.R. 6621, the Workforce of the Future Act of 2025, addresses this issue by authorizing \$250 million in new federal funding aimed at modernizing education and training. Specifically, the bill allocates \$160 million for Education grants to community colleges to develop a curriculum in emerging technologies, and an additional \$90 million for Workforce Training Grants to support rapid reskilling for displaced workers. This piece of legislation explicitly prioritizes institutions serving underrepresented communities and historically marginalized communities, recognizing the strong role Community colleges play in developing First-generation low-income students

Last Action

House - 12/11/2025 Referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Current Status

Introduced

Recommendation (Support, oppose, or watch? Why?)

As we enter 2026, the impact of AI on the workforce is undeniable due to the rapid integration of AI in modern workflows. The issue facing the Colleges today is the "skills gap", the disconnect between the workforce's current abilities and the demands of the modern AI economy. Without targeted funds being used to help community colleges meet this demand, it risks leaving those from underrepresented backgrounds unprepared for current trends.

**ASCSM Legislative Bill Report
submitted by**

Ryan Farzaneh

Email ryanfarzaneh@my.smccd.edu

Bill Name LOAN Act

Bill Number H.R.4862

Bill Sponsor(s) Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]

**Bill Co-Sponsor(s) from California
(if any)** Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-8]
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]

Purpose of Bill The cost of education has so steeply accelerated with inflation, housing, and tuition, and it has become more difficult to pay for the cost of college. The Pell Grant was originally created with the intention to "function as the foundation of federal need-based aid" (Dortch). However, its purchasing power has decreased in the past 40 years, covering less than 40% of public undergraduate tuition today.

Bill Description H.R. 4862, known as the LOAN Act, aims to double the Pell Grant award amount, expand financial aid to more students to meet basic needs, improve the public loan and forgiveness program for all students, and reduce interest rates to meet the actual cost of living(Scott). First, this bill will ensure that the pell grant is doubled over the course of 5 years and will be tied to the consumer price index (CPI) afterwards to increase matching the pace of inflation. Additionally, it sets aside mandatory funding for Federal Pell Grants, ensuring that previous shortfalls in Pell funding do not happen again (Scott). Next, this bill will provide aid to students that extend beyond what is covered by CSM's free college initiative, cover more students (including dreamer students), and ensure students get support in pursuing higher degrees, including a 4 year, graduate, or a professional degree for a total of 18 semesters of aid. Furthermore, for those who must still borrow, the act seeks to drastically minimize long-term debt by reducing interest rates and streamlining the public loan forgiveness program, ensuring that a student's financial future is not compromised by their pursuit of an education.

Last Action

House - 08/01/2025 Referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Current Status

Introduced

Recommendation (Support, oppose, or watch? Why?)

The cost of education has so steeply accelerated with inflation, housing, and tuition, and it has become more difficult to pay for the cost of college. The Pell Grant was originally created with the intention to "function as the foundation of federal need-based aid" (Dortch). However, its purchasing power has decreased in the past 40 years, covering less than 40% of public undergraduate tuition today.

One of the largest barriers to education is cost and lack of financial aid. According to the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, "85% of adults - who either stopped out or never enrolled in a higher education program - said an important reason why they weren't currently enrolled is because of the cost of the degree or credential program" and "77% of these adults cited their need to work as an important reason why" (Carrasco). For those who are already students, many are struggling. Around "31% considered stopping out due to the cost of the degree or credential program. Overall 35% of currently enrolled students said they have considered stopping out in the past six months and of that group, 54% say they struggle to pay monthly bills" (Carrasco). Unless the government takes action, it will become difficult for new and current students to pursue their education.

**ASCSM Legislative Bill Report
submitted by**

Ryan Farzaneh

Email ryanfarzaneh@my.smccd.edu

Bill Name Protect America Act

Bill Number S.3790

Bill Sponsor(s) Sen. Schmitt, Eric [R-MO]

Purpose of Bill Moreover, visa-holding students are not considered immigrants or citizens. While they have First Amendment protections and the right to free speech, the temporary nature of their visa makes them vulnerable to deportation as they're subjected to different standards than U.S. citizens (Drenon, 2025). This is supported by the fact there have been stricter requirements for visa applicants where applicants must now have their social media screened for "any indications of hostility toward the citizens, culture, government, institutions, or founding principles of the United States", with officers also being specified to look for those "who advocate for, aid, or support designated foreign terrorists and other threats to national security; or who perpetrate unlawful anti-Semitic harassment or violence". Keeping social media accounts private can often be interpreted as concealing online activity (Yousif, 2025).

Recent events seen since last year indicate that providing more power to federal law enforcement could be detrimental, given the failures they've documented in managing deportation operations and insufficient safeguards for the lawful, safe, and dignified apprehension of individuals.

Bill Description

Bill S.3790, otherwise known as the Protect America Act, would deny student visas to international students who wish to attend educational institutions in sanctuary cities. Jurisdictions that refuse to cooperate with federal law enforcement and agents (ICE) by materially restricting or otherwise enacting policies to prohibit compliance with them would have funds from the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and/or the Department of Transportation rescinded. The bill also seeks to increase penalties for assaults on Federal Officers.

Last Action

Senate - 02/05/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Current StatusIntroduced

Recommendation (Support, oppose, or watch? Why?)

The bill should not be passed as it directly diminishes the autonomy of states and local jurisdictions to serve the best interests of their own communities. The bill is also too ambiguous on what assaulting federal officers means, with excessive punishments that could give too much power to the federal government.

Last fall, Multnomah County in Oregon had about a 600% spike in apprehensions following protests there. It was mentioned that arrest warrants were pre-signed and then ICE agents filled them out with details of arrestees, which is against the law (Brynelson, 2026). Additionally, the conditions at detention centers are inadequate, with the New York Times examining detention cases where pregnant women reported not having access to prenatal care, safe food and water, as well as being subjected to unsafe handling when being arrested and transferred, such as being cuffed by the ankles and around their stomach (2026). These conditions, along with overcrowding, have led to alarming death rates in detention centers, where there have been more deaths since October than in the entire previous year before then (Bustillo, Mukherjee, 2026).

**ASCSM Legislative Bill Report
submitted by**

Ryan Farzaneh

Email

ryanfarzaneh@my.smccd.edu

Bill Name

College for All Act of 2025

Bill Number

S.1832

Bill Sponsor(s)

Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]

**Bill Co-Sponsor(s) from California
(if any)**Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]
Sen. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA]**Purpose of Bill**

College cost too much. The price of college has risen significantly faster than wages, resulting in a substantial affordability gap, keeping millions of individuals, especially low-income, first-gen, and students of color, from pursuing and finishing a degree. Currently, total U.S. student loan debt sits at 1.7 trillion dollars. Nationwide, 44 million individuals are borrowers. 54% of CCC students qualify for Pell grants, yet these grants haven't been keeping up with rising tuition costs. Many individuals who are in pursuit of a degree either take on massive debt, work multiple jobs to stay enrolled, or end up dropping out entirely. Countless people dream of a degree, but just can't afford it.

Bill Description

S.1832, The College for All Act of 2025, introduced by Bernie Sanders, aims to create a partnership between the federal government and the states to make college tuition free. Starting with community colleges, S.1832 aims to make community colleges free for every student regardless of income. When it comes to 4-year schools, the bill will cover tuition for working and middle-class families making under 300k a year. Minority serving institutions will get their funding doubled. The maximum Pell Grant will be raised from around \$7000 to nearly \$15000. S.1832 directly addresses the cost of college.

Last Action

Senate - 05/21/2025 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Current Status

Introduced

Recommendation (Support, oppose, or watch? Why?)

Higher education and tuition reduction
Makes community college tuition free nationwide through a federal-state partnership, and this starts in 2026-2027.
Eliminates
Economic growth: higher education is more accessible ->
Workforce is better developed, as our workforce is more educated.

**ASCSM Legislative Bill Report
submitted by**

Ryan Farzaneh

Email

ryanfarzaneh@my.smccd.edu

Bill Name

Fast Track To and Through College Act

Bill Number

H.R.7117

Bill Sponsor(s)

Rep. Olszewski, Johnny [D-MD-2]

Purpose of Bill

H.R. 7117 supports expanding access to college pathways by investing in programs that help students transition into and succeed in higher education. While the bill broadly focuses on improving access and support systems, it creates an opportunity to expand dual enrollment and early college programs like Middle College.

With increased funding and resources, programs like Middle College at CSM could expand their capacity beyond the current limit of approximately 100 students per year. This would allow more students across the district to participate in college-level coursework, accelerating their academic progress and reducing the time and cost required to complete a degree.

Additional funding could also support more staff, counseling, and academic resources to ensure that students in these programs are successful. Expanding these programs would not only benefit individual students but also strengthen the overall education system by creating a more prepared and college-ready student population.

Overall, the Fast Track To and Through College Act presents an opportunity to address the limitations of selective programs like Middle College by increasing access, expanding capacity, and ensuring that more students can benefit from early college experiences.

Bill Description

The Fast Track To and Through College Act aims to expand access to higher education by strengthening pathways that help students transition into college earlier and more effectively. Programs like Middle College show how early access to college coursework can accelerate student success, but limited funding and resources restrict how many students can benefit. This bill emphasizes the importance of investing in programs that support college readiness and completion, creating opportunities for more students to access advanced academic pathways.

Last Action

House - 01/15/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.

Current StatusIntroduced

Recommendation (Support, oppose, or watch? Why?)

H.R. 7117 supports expanding access to college pathways by investing in programs that help students transition into and succeed in higher education. While the bill broadly focuses on improving access and support systems, it creates an opportunity to expand dual enrollment and early college programs like Middle College.

With increased funding and resources, programs like Middle College at CSM could expand their capacity beyond the current limit of approximately 100 students per year. This would allow more students across the district to participate in college-level coursework, accelerating their academic progress and reducing the time and cost required to complete a degree.

Additional funding could also support more staff, counseling, and academic resources to ensure that students in these programs are successful. Expanding these programs would not only benefit individual students but also strengthen the overall education system by creating a more prepared and college-ready student population.

Overall, the Fast Track To and Through College Act presents an opportunity to address the limitations of selective programs like Middle College by increasing access, expanding capacity, and ensuring that more students can benefit from early college experiences.

College of San Mateo Advocacy Board



Presented by the students at the College of San Mateo

Table of Contents

- Overview

Advocacy at the College of San Mateo

What is advocacy:

Advocacy is defined as

What our impact is:

- Influencing policy and measures related to the most affected demographic for the better.
- Initiating plans that serve as catalysts for bigger, better impacts.
- Improving quality of life for San Mateo's younger population demographic.
- Meet and spoke with state legislators to advocate for bills to be passed, on behalf of students

Technology in Education

Nick Costello

HR 6621: Workforce Of the Future Act

Sponsor: Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (Democrat, Missouri)

Status: Introduced in the House (119th Congress), December 11, 2025

Overview of the issue: As we enter 2026, the impact of AI on the workforce is undeniable due to the rapid integration of AI in modern workflows. The issue facing the Colleges today is the “skills gap”, the disconnect between the workforce's current abilities and the demands of the modern AI economy. Without targeted funds being used to help community colleges meet this demand, it risks leaving those from underrepresented backgrounds unprepared for current trends.

Overview of the Bill:

H.R. 6621, the Workforce of the Future Act of 2025, addresses this issue by authorizing \$250 million in new federal funding aimed at modernizing education and training. Specifically, the bill allocates \$160 million for Education grants to community colleges to develop a curriculum in emerging technologies, and an additional \$90 million for Workforce Training Grants to support rapid reskilling for displaced workers. This piece of legislation explicitly prioritizes institutions serving underrepresented communities and historically marginalized communities, recognizing the strong role Community colleges play in developing First-generation low-income students.

Most exposed occupations

Occupation	Observed exposure	Leading automated task
Computer programmers	74.5%	Write, update, and maintain software programs
Customer service representatives	70.1%	Confer with customers to provide info, take orders, handle complaints
Data entry keyers	67.1%	Read source documents and enter data into systems
Medical record specialists	66.7%	Compile, abstract, and code patient data
Market research analysts and marketing specialists	64.8%	Prepare reports of findings, illustrating data graphically and translating complex findings into written text
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	62.8%	Contact customers to demonstrate products and solicit orders
Financial and investment analysts	57.2%	Inform investment decisions by analyzing financial information to forecast business, industry, or economic conditions
Software quality assurance analysts and testers	51.9%	Modify software to correct errors or improve performance
Information security analysts	48.6%	Perform risk assessments and test data processing security
Computer user support specialists	46.8%	Answer user inquiries regarding computer software or hardware operation to resolve problems

Funding for Pell Grant

Puja Prasad

H.R. 4862 - The LOAN Act

Sponsor: Rep. Robert C. Scott

Status: Introduced August 1st, 2025

Overview of the Issue:

The cost of education has so steeply accelerated with inflation, housing, and tuition, and it has become more difficult to pay for the cost of college. The Pell Grant was originally created with the intention to “function as the foundation of federal need-based aid” (Dortch). However, its purchasing power has decreased in the past 40 years, covering less than 40% of public undergraduate tuition today.

One of the largest barriers to education is cost and lack of financial aid. According to the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, “85% of adults – who either stopped out or never enrolled in a higher education program – said an important reason why they weren’t currently enrolled is because of the cost of the degree or credential program” and “77% of these adults cited their need to work as an important reason why” (Carrasco). For those who are already students, many are struggling. Around “31% considered stopping out due to the cost of the degree or credential program. Overall 35% of currently enrolled students said they have considered stopping out in the past six months and of that group, 54% say they struggle to pay monthly bills” (Carrasco). Unless the government takes action, it will become difficult for new and current students to pursue their education.

Overview of the Bill:

H.R. 4862, known as the LOAN Act, aims to double the Pell Grant award amount, expand financial aid to more students to meet basic needs, improve the public loan and forgiveness program for all students, and reduce interest rates to meet the actual cost of living (Scott). First, this bill will ensure that the Pell Grant is doubled over the course of 5 years and will be tied to the consumer price index (CPI) afterwards to increase matching the pace of inflation. Additionally, it sets aside mandatory funding for Federal Pell Grants, ensuring that previous shortfalls in Pell funding do not happen again (Scott). Next, this bill will provide aid to students that extend beyond what is covered by CSM’s free college initiative, cover more students (including dreamer students), and ensure students get

support in pursuing higher degrees, including a 4 year, graduate, or a professional degree for a total of 18 semesters of aid. Furthermore, for those who must still borrow, the act seeks to drastically minimize long-term debt by reducing interest rates and streamlining the public loan forgiveness program, ensuring that a student's financial future is not compromised by their pursuit of an education.

Immigration

S.3790 - Protect America Act

Status: Introduced to the Senate on February 5th, 2026

Sponsor: Eric Schmitt

Co-sponsors: Ted Budd

Issue Overview

In recent years, we have seen an increased focus on immigration, particularly on immigrants' and non-citizens' rights. Ambiguous changes and additions to immigration policies have led to unlawful deportations and detainees living in inadequate conditions at detention centers. On a local level, this topic is relevant to CSM as it is a Hispanic-serving college with a significant portion of international students. Both our international and Hispanic student populations are likely to be impacted by immigration policies overseeing visas, green cards, and, of course, immigration and customs enforcement (ICE).

Bill Overview

Bill S.3790, otherwise known as the Protect America Act, would deny student visas to international students who wish to attend educational institutions in sanctuary cities. Jurisdictions that refuse to cooperate with federal law enforcement and agents (ICE) by materially restricting or otherwise enacting policies to prohibit compliance with them would have funds from the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and/or the Department of Transportation rescinded. The bill also seeks to increase penalties for assaults on Federal Officers.

Proposal

The bill should not be passed as it directly diminishes the autonomy of states and local jurisdictions to serve the best interests of their own communities. The bill is also too ambiguous on what assaulting federal officers means, with excessive punishments that could give too much power to the federal government.

Last fall, Multnomah County in Oregon had about a 600% spike in apprehensions following protests there. It was mentioned that arrest warrants were pre-signed and then ICE agents filled them out with details of arrestees, which is against the law (Brynelson, 2026). Additionally, the conditions at detention centers are inadequate, with the New York Times examining detention cases where pregnant women reported not having access to prenatal care, safe food and water, as well as being subjected to unsafe handling when being arrested and transferred, such as being cuffed by the ankles and around their stomach (2026). These conditions, along with overcrowding, have led to alarming death rates in detention centers, where there have been more deaths since October than in the entire previous year before then (Bustillo, Mukherjee, 2026).

Moreover, visa-holding students are not considered immigrants or citizens. While they have First Amendment protections and the right to free speech, the temporary nature of their visa makes them vulnerable to deportation as they're subjected to different standards than U.S. citizens (Drenon, 2025). This is supported by the fact there have been stricter requirements for visa applicants where applicants must now have their social media screened for "any indications of hostility toward the citizens, culture, government, institutions, or founding principles of the United States", with officers also being specified to look for those "who advocate for, aid, or support designated foreign terrorists and other threats to national security; or who perpetrate unlawful anti-Semitic harassment or violence". Keeping social media accounts private can often be interpreted as concealing online activity (Yousif, 2025).

Recent events seen since last year indicate that providing more power to federal law enforcement could be detrimental, given the failures they've documented in managing deportation operations and insufficient safeguards for the lawful, safe, and dignified apprehension of individuals.

Sources

- Brynelson, T. (2026, March 13). After Trump called Portland "war-ravaged," ICE apprehensions near the city spiked 600%. *OPB*.
<https://www.opb.org/article/2026/03/13/oregon-portland-ice-apprehensions-multnomah-washington-marion/>
- Bustillo, X., & Mukherjee, R. (2026, March 10). Immigration detention on track for deadliest fiscal year since 2004. *NPR*.

<https://www.npr.org/2026/03/10/g-s1-111238/immigration-detention-deaths-cus-today>

Drenon, B. (2025, April 9). Why has Trump revoked hundreds of international student visas? *BBC*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cg411rrnkkko>

Kitchener, C., Henríquez, C., & Aleaziz, H. (2026, March 20). Pregnant in ICE Detention: Handcuffs and Pleas for Medical Care. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/20/us/politics/pregnant-women-ice-detention.html>

Yousif, N. (2025, June 18). US resumes student visas but applicants must unlock social media profiles. *BBC*. <http://bbc.com/news/articles/cgrxyx0qr7eo>

Funding for Higher Education

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/1832/text>

Nicolas Moshkovoy

S.1832 - College for All Act of 2025

Introduced May 21, 2025, by Senator Bernie Sanders, with a companion House bill (H.R. 3543) from Representative Pramila Jayapal.

Status: S.1832 has been introduced to the Senate and referred to committee. Currently awaiting further consideration.

Overview of Issue: College cost too much. The price of college has risen significantly faster than wages, resulting in a substantial affordability gap, keeping millions of individuals, especially low-income, first-gen, and students of color, from pursuing and finishing a degree. Currently, total U.S. student loan debt sits at 1.7 trillion dollars. Nationwide, 44 million individuals are borrowers. 54% of CCC students qualify for Pell grants, yet these grants haven't been keeping up with rising tuition costs. Many individuals who are in pursuit of a degree either take on massive debt, work multiple jobs to stay enrolled, or end up dropping out entirely. Countless people dream of a degree, but just can't afford it.

Overview of the bill: S.1832, *The College for All Act of 2025*, introduced by Bernie Sanders, aims to create a partnership between the federal government and the states to make college tuition free. Starting with community colleges, S.1832 aims to make community colleges free for every student regardless of income. When it comes to 4-year schools, the bill will cover tuition for working and middle-class families making under 300k a year. Minority-serving institutions will get their funding doubled. The maximum Pell Grant will be raised from around \$7000 to nearly \$15000. S.1832 directly addresses the cost of college

Why it matters:

- Higher education and tuition reduction
- Makes community college tuition free nationwide through a federal-state partnership, and this starts in 2026-2027.
- Eliminates
- Economic growth: higher education is more accessible -> Workforce is better developed, as our workforce is more educated.

Fast Track To and Through College Act

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7117/text>

H.R 7117 Fast Track To and Through College Act

Samantha Nguyen

Sponsored: Representative Johnny Olszewski D-MD-2

Overview:

The Fast Track To and Through College Act aims to expand access to higher education by strengthening pathways that help students transition into college earlier and more effectively. Programs like Middle College show how early access to college coursework can accelerate student success, but limited funding and resources restrict how many students can benefit. This bill emphasizes the importance of investing in programs that support college readiness and completion, creating opportunities for more students to access advanced academic pathways.

Overview of the Issue:

Middle College at the College of San Mateo is a highly selective dual enrollment program that allows high school students to take college courses while completing their high school education. However, access to this opportunity is extremely limited. Across the San Mateo Union High School District, only about 100 students are accepted into the program each year. This is not due to a lack of interest or qualified applicants, but rather the limited capacity and funding available to support the program.

Because of these constraints, many motivated and academically prepared students are unable to participate. This creates an inequitable system where access to accelerated learning opportunities is restricted, even though programs like Middle College have been proven to support student success. Students in these programs gain early exposure to college-level expectations, build confidence, and often complete college credits before graduating high school.

Without increased funding and resources, programs like Middle College cannot expand to meet student demand. As a result, opportunities for early college access remain limited, preventing many students from benefiting from a pathway that can significantly impact their academic and career futures.

Proposal:

H.R. 7117 supports expanding access to college pathways by investing in programs that help students transition into and succeed in higher education. While the bill broadly focuses on improving access and support systems, it creates an opportunity to expand dual enrollment and early college programs like Middle College.

With increased funding and resources, programs like Middle College at CSM could expand their capacity beyond the current limit of approximately 100 students per year. This would allow more students across the district to participate in college-level coursework, accelerating their academic progress and reducing the time and cost required to complete a degree.

Additional funding could also support more staff, counseling, and academic resources to ensure that students in these programs are successful. Expanding these programs would not only benefit individual students but also strengthen the overall education system by creating a more prepared and college-ready student population.

Overall, the Fast Track To and Through College Act presents an opportunity to address the limitations of selective programs like Middle College by increasing access, expanding capacity, and ensuring that more students can benefit from early college experiences.

More overview on the bill:

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name	Associated Students of College of San Mateo
Event or Request Title	ASCSM 2026 Banquet
Application Contact Name	Jing Ee Ong
Application Contact Email	ongj2@my.smccd.edu
Event or Request Description	<p>This ASCSM Banquet is held to celebrate the hard work and achievements of the 2025-2026 ASCSM Student Senate. The event recognizes the accomplishments of the Senate throughout the year, while also expressing gratitude to the faculty and staff who have supported ASCSM's efforts and success along the way.</p> <p>In addition, newly elected members of the 2025-2026 Student Senate will also be invited to attend and participate in the celebration as they transition into their roles.</p>
Event Date and Time	May 11, 2026 02:00 PM
Event Location	Building 10 College Heights
Estimated Attendance	50
How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?	The ASCSM Banquet supports the mission of ASCSM by recognizing and celebrating the contributions of the 2025-26 Associated Students team to student life at CSM. It highlights the efforts of all four boards and senate members who have worked throughout the year to enhance student engagement, advocate for student needs, and strengthen campus life.
What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?	We hope attendees leave with a strong sense of appreciation for student leaders as well as the administrators who have supported ASCSM throughout the year. This banquet also serves as a meaningful transition between the outgoing and newly elected ASCSM teams, creating an opportunity for connection, reflection, and the sharing of advice. Ultimately, we want to foster continuity, collaboration, and inspiration for future student leaders.
Please explain how you will promote and market this event.	We will promote the event through outreach to the ASCSM Senate and all Associated Students boards. In addition, invitations will be sent to college administrators and staff to invite them to join us in celebrating this milestone.

Please upload a copy of a flyer promoting this event.

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19390645054>

Please upload an agenda for the event (it is OK if this is in draft or outline form).

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19390645055>

Item #1 - Description

Food

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount

3000

Item #2 - Description

Decorations & Memento

Item #2 - Requested Funding Amount

2000

Total Funding Request

5000

ASCSM Funding Application for Student Clubs and Organizations

Club or Student Organization Name	Associated Students of College of San Mateo
Event or Request Title	Election Outreach and Promotional Events
Application Contact Name	Jing Ee Ong
Application Contact Email	ongj2@my.smccd.edu
Event or Request Description	<p>This funding application is submitted by the Election Commission to support outreach and promotional efforts during the ASCSM 2026-27 election period. These events include candidate tabling opportunities during the campaigning period, as well as Election Commission-led tabling during the voting period. The goal of these efforts is to increase awareness of the election process and encourage greater participation from the College of San Mateo student body in casting their votes.</p>
Event Date and Time	Apr 22, 2026 11:30 PM
Event Location	Building 10
Estimated Attendance	50
How does this event support the mission and purpose of your club?	<p>This event supports our mission by increasing awareness of the ASCSM election process and encouraging greater student involvement in student government.</p>
What do you want to students and the campus community to take away from this event?	<p>As ASCSM serves as the official voice of the student body, it is important that students are informed about the candidates they are voting for and understand the impact of their votes. Through outreach and engagement, this event helps ensure that students are educated, empowered, and actively participating in shaping their student representation.</p>
Please explain how you will promote and market this event.	<p>We will share information about candidate tabling during the mandatory candidate meeting and provide candidates with sign-up instructions to participate. In addition, we will send out email communications to ensure all candidates are informed and have the opportunity to promote themselves. We will also actively promote the election through the official ASCSM Instagram account to increase visibility and awareness among the student body.</p>
Item #1 - Description	Food

Item #1 - Requested Funding Amount	3000
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Item #2 - Description	Supplies
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Item #2 - Requested Funding Amount	500
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Total Funding Request	3500
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Agenda Item #15: Past Event Debrief

The Senate shall discuss and provide feedback on the following events and/or activities.

- a. Drag Show
- b. Snoozefest