

California College and University Police Chiefs Association Legislative Overview

Starting this week, our website will give you information about our Legislative achievements in the recently concluded 2015-2016 session. Just as we experienced in 2015, the California College and University Police Chiefs Association completed a sparkling successful Legislative session. Our Association was constantly sought out by Legislators to support significant pieces of legislation.

That's why, beginning this week, we will be highlighting some of the bills that were enacted largely due to the efforts of the California College and University Police Chiefs Association:

EQUAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES FOR ALL CAMPUSES: For decades, there has been a dichotomy between the level of public safety services that can be provided on private college or university campuses compared to the higher level of public safety services that are being provided on public college or university campuses. This is particularly distressing when one considers that both types of campuses face the same public safety challenges, and that two cohorts of crimes, sexual assaults and active shooter incidents, take place disproportionately on college and university campuses irrespective of whether that campus is private or public. In response to that challenge, the California College and University Police Chiefs Association helped sponsor Assembly Bill 2361, which enabled safety officers on private college or university campuses to become peace officers pursuant to a memorandum of understanding with the Chief of Police or Sheriff in whose jurisdiction the campus is located.

In addition, the California College and University Police Chiefs Association successfully sought amendments to Senate Bill 872, which will permit POST certified college and university police agencies on public campuses to themselves enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with a private campus to provide peace officer services on those campuses. Like AB 2361, SB 872 was also signed into law at the urging of CCUPCA.

POWDERED ALCOHOL: This past year so an alarming introduction of a new product – powdered alcohol – that was on the brink of being licensed to be sold in California. Acting at the request of the authors of Assembly Bill 1554 and Senate Bill 819 (both of which prohibited the manufacture or sale of powdered alcohol in California), the California College and University Police Chiefs provided lead testimony in support of each of those bills. We further engaged directly with Governor Brown's Legislative team to help secure the signing of both of these bills into law.

NO MORE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR RAPE: The California College and University Police Chiefs Association took a highly visible position in support of Senate Bill 813. This was landmark Legislation that eliminated the statute of limitations in rape, forcible sodomy, forcible oral copulation, and continuous sexual abuse of a minor under 14 years of age. When this bill was first introduced, its prospects were considered to be very much in doubt. The California College and University Police Chiefs Association was able to provide important testimony to the Senate and Assembly Public Safety Committees underscoring the urgency of eliminating the statute of

limitations. We were able to educate both committees about the disproportionate sexual assaults that take place in a campus environment that often involve such complex fact situations that it takes many victims extended to time to process what actually happened to them. Again, our Association actively engaged with the Governor's staff in helping to secure enactment of this important Legislation into law.

AB 1289 requires a Transportation Network Company to conduct a criminal background check for each participating driver. Students are frequent users of services such as Uber and Lyft, and we were able to educate Legislators about the importance of having specific criminal background check requirements.

AB 701 was a major priority bill for our organization. This bill was introduced late in the session in response to the Brock Turner incident at Stanford. This bill, strongly supported by CCUPCA, changes the definition of rape, spousal rape, unlawful sexual intercourse to instead mean penetration, no matter how slight of the vagina or anus with any body part or object or oral penetration by a sex organ where the victim is unconscious. A related bill was AB 2888, which amends the Penal Code to include all sexual assault felonies perpetrated against intoxicated and unconscious victims among the list of offenses where the defendant is ineligible for probation.

SB 139 assures that manufacturers of synthetic stimulant compounds, such as Bath Salts and Spice, cannot evade accountability by chemically tinkering with their product. This bill will also facilitate entry into treatment for defendants convicted of personal possession of these products. CCUPCA had a high stake in securing enactment of this bill due to the number of young people who use these products.

GUN SAFETY: Assembly Bill 1798, by Assembly Member Cooper prohibits cell phone cases that are shaped to resemble a firearm. This was an important bill for CCUPCA given the disproportionate number of shooting incidents that take place in a campus environment.

SEXUAL ASSAULTS: Senate Bill 1182, by Senator Galgiani, provides that persons possessing date rape drugs can be charged with a felony if there is any other evidence that indicates their intent to use those drugs in a predatory fashion. A similar bill was vetoed by the Governor in 2015 and CCUPCA made passage of this bill a high priority project. CCUPCA actively engaged with the Administration in support of SB 1182. Ultimately, Governor Brown, in a highly unusual (but welcome) move, permitted SB 1182 to become law without his signature.

NO MEDICAL PAROLE OR COMPASSIONATE RELEASE FOR COP KILLERS: CCUPCA joined with every other law enforcement organization at the Capitol in securing passage of Senate Bill 6, by Senator Galgiani. This bill specifically provides that no one convicted of first degree murder of a law enforcement officer will be eligible for medical parole or compassionate release. The bill was prompted by the near release on medical parole of an inmate who had murdered to peace officers execution style. CCUPCA appeared at every hearing in strong support of this bill.

Next week we will be providing you with information on additional bills where CCUPCA played a key role in securing their enactment.