

# EDGE Policy Update

April 2023

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature returned from their week-long spring recess and faced a fast-approaching deadline for policy committees to send all fiscal bills to the appropriations committees by April 28<sup>th</sup>. Thus far, we've seen legislation pass several key committees in the areas of workforce development and higher education access intended to support working families, small businesses, underserved opportunity youth, and adult learners.

In addition to policy committees being held, dozens of budget committee hearings have been taking place in both the Senate and Assembly - providing informational overviews of the Governor's proposed budget and uplifting priorities and concerns with the pending budget. EDGE submitted a [budget letter](#) to the Administration and Legislature outlining our priorities in response to the budget proposal. View our summary of the Governor's budget proposal [here](#). As for next steps, the Legislature is expected to act on several key budget items leading up to the Governor's May Revision and June 15 budget deadline.

As the 2022 legislative year continues to prove extremely busy with numerous policy and budget proposals seeking to prioritize economic recovery strategies, several measures EDGE is tracking continue to make their way through the legislative process. EDGE is committed to advancing policies that support our business community, dislocated workers in low-wage occupations, provide stable resources to our community colleges, invest in support services for opportunity youth and adult learners, and expand training opportunities for California's most underserved communities - all while prioritizing racial and economic equity.

Below are various bills that EDGE has taken positions on thus far. This list will be updated as we continue to analyze pending legislation. For more information about our positions and efforts, please contact Anna Alvarado, Policy Director, at [aalvarado@caedge.org](mailto:aalvarado@caedge.org).

## EDGE Bill Positions

as of April 26, 2023

**[ACR 16 \(Mike Fong\) Opportunity Youth in CA.](#)** *This resolution encourages the State of California to create pathways to success for OY and the need to develop a statewide comprehensive plan that will reduce persistent economic inequities by prioritizing investments in education and workforce training programs; expand innovative "earn and learn" opportunities such as apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, and work-based learning opportunities; advance dual enrollment implementation; ensure inclusivity of OY in the Cradle-to-Career Data System; remove barriers to access student financial aid programs; and protect social safety net investments that support basic needs – enabling OY to complete their education and training goals. EDGE is a Co-Sponsor, along w/ COYN & New Ways to Work.*

**Position:** **Support**

**Status:** Pending on the Senate Floor

**[AB 368 \(Holden\) College & Career Access Pathways Partnerships.](#)** This bill would update the definition of "underrepresented in higher education" that is used for the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) program, which facilitates dual enrollment programs. The bill intends to ensure underrepresented students are receiving priority registration for dual enrollment programs, including undocumented students, first-time college students, foster youth, homeless students, and student parents. The bill also requires data collection on student demographics and course completion.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Pending in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**[AB 372 \(Nguyen\) CalWORKS.](#)** This bill would exclude pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships income in order to determine CalWORKs eligibility for individuals participating in these programs. This exclusion will expand access to cash assistance through CalWORKs for more underserved Californians who are facing socio-economic barriers and further incentivize individuals to participate in apprenticeships.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Pending in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**[AB 685 \(Ramos\) CA Youth Job Corps.](#)** This bill would establish in statute the CaliforniansForAll Youth Job Corps Program and expand the program statewide, with an emphasis on providing supportive services for homeless youth and current or former foster youth to enable their participation in the workforce development program.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Pending in Assembly Appropriations Committee

**[SB 227 \(Durazo\) Unemployment Insurance for Undocumented Workers.](#)** This bill seeks to provide unemployment insurance benefits to excluded immigrant workers in California who could not access these benefits due to immigration status. The proposal would provide undocumented immigrants experiencing unemployment with \$300 per week for up to 20 weeks.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Pending in Senate Appropriations Committee

**[SB 467 \(Portantino\) Apprenticeships.](#)** This bill would prohibit an immigrant student from being denied admission to a community college apprenticeship or internship training program if the student uses an individual tax identification number (ITIN) for purposes of the background check required by the class or program.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Pending in the Assembly