

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2176 (Fong) – As Introduced February 19, 2026

Policy Committee: Higher Education Vote: 10 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) and the Chancellor of the California State University (CSU) to establish an intersegmental housing working group composed of representatives from two offices, faculty and students, and requests the office of the President of the University of California (UCOP) to join and appoint representatives to the working group.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- 1) Minor and absorbable costs to the CSU to set up the workgroup.
- 2) One-time General Fund costs of an unknown amount but possibly in the tens of thousands of dollars to CCCCCO to participate in the working group.
- 3) One-time General Fund costs in the low tens of thousands of dollars for the UCOP to participate in the working group.

While the bill does not create a significant fiscal effect, generally, the committee will move to the suspense file any bill with the primary purpose of creating a working group.

**COMMENTS:**

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

A recent audit by the California State Auditor found that more than half of students across the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges have experienced housing insecurity, and that current waitlists significantly underestimate the true level of unmet demand for student housing.

AB 2176 adopts one of the recommendations from the State Auditor's report by establishing an intersegmental student housing working group to bring stakeholders across all three segments together to jointly assess housing needs and identify opportunities for collaboration. By developing a coordinated analysis of systemwide, regional, and campus-level housing demand, the working group will help inform future student housing investments and identify strategies

for intersegmental housing projects that allow institutions to share resources and respond more flexibly to enrollment changes.

- 2) **Background.** A 2025 California State Auditor (CSA) report found that the number of students enrolled at each of the public higher education segments vastly exceeded the number of available beds in fall 2024. According to the report, there were a total of 17,500 students on a housing waitlist across all three of the CSU, UC, and CCC systems. The report made several recommendations for the Legislature to consider. This bill codifies the recommendation for all three higher education systems to convene an intersegmental housing working group. Notably, the bill does not task one of the three segments with leading the working group nor does it specify timelines or deliverables other than the development of a statewide plan to identify opportunities for intersegmental campus housing collaboration.

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