
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2176 (Fong) - Student housing: intersegmental working group

Version: June 8, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 29, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 7 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill requires the California State University (CSU) to convene a work group that includes participation from representatives of the California Community Colleges (CCCs) and the University of California (UC) for the purposes of developing recommendations for assessing unmet student housing demand, identifying opportunities for intersegmental student housing development, and supporting the sharing of information related to intersegmental student housing projects.

Fiscal Impact: The CSU estimates one-time costs in the low hundreds of thousands of dollars for consulting and staff time to coordinate intersegmental collaboration and stakeholder engagement, and prepare the required report for the Legislature.

Background: Existing law requires the CSU Chancellor's Office, and requests the UC Office of the President, to do both of the following:

1. Conduct a needs assessment to determine the projected student housing needs, by campus, for the 2022–23 fiscal year to the 2026–27 fiscal year, inclusive, taking into account the projected enrollment growth and the goal of closing the degree gap; and,
2. Create a student housing plan, with a focus on affordable student housing, that outlines how they will meet the projected student housing needs, by campus, identified pursuant to (a) above. The student housing plan must include the specific actions to be taken for the 2022–23 fiscal year to the 2026–27 fiscal year, inclusive.

Existing law provides that three years after July 1, 2022, the CSU Chancellor's Office must, and the UC Office of the President may, review and update the student housing plan described above and include the specific actions to be taken in the next five fiscal years.

Proposed Law: This bill requires, by July 1, 2027, the CSU Chancellor to convene a work group to develop recommendations for assessing unmet student housing demand, identify opportunities for intersegmental student housing development, and support the sharing of best practices and technical expertise related to intersegmental student housing projects.

This bill requires the work group to include representatives designated by each of the following: CSU Chancellor, CCC Chancellor, the UC President if they elect to participate, the CSU statewide student organization, the CCC statewide student

organization, and the UC statewide student organization if UC elects to participate. The bill requests UC to participate in the working group and designate representatives.

This bill requires the work group to consult with representatives from campuses that have pursued intersegmental student housing projects and representatives from campus and system-level offices responsible for housing operations, capital planning, facilities development, and basic needs programs. It authorizes the working group to consult with other stakeholders, including, but not limited to, local governments, housing developers, researchers, and subject matter experts.

This bill requires that the work group submit a report to the Legislature and the Governor by July 1, 2028, and requires that the report include specific components, including recommendations regarding metrics, data sources, and reporting practices that may be used to assess and determine unmet student housing demand across the state's public postsecondary educational institutions, including a framework of common indicators that may improve the consistency and comparability of assessments across segments and campuses and an analysis of completed and proposed intersegmental student housing projects, including factors associated with successful project delivery and factors that impeded or prevented project completion.

This bill states legislative intent to establish an intersegmental student housing working group to coordinate efforts on developing student housing across the public higher education segments, as recommended by the specified California State Auditor report.

Staff Comments: In October 2025, the California State Auditor released a report, California Colleges: California's Systems of Public Higher Education Could Better Address Student Housing Needs. The audit report examined how the CCC, CSU, and UC assessed student housing needs and planned for their development. It found that the segments could strengthen their oversight and planning efforts to better assess unmet student housing demand and address student housing needs. Among its recommendations, the audit suggested that the Legislature consider clarifying the role of the segments' offices in housing planning and requiring them to develop and implement processes to periodically assess unmet demand for campus housing. This bill seeks to address the issues identified in the audit by establishing a working group to develop recommendations regarding unmet demand assessments and intersegmental housing opportunities.

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