
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No: AB 2693 **Hearing Date:** June 17, 2026
Author: Alvarez
Version: April 23, 2026
Urgency: No **Fiscal:** Yes
Consultant: Olgalilia Ramirez

Subject: California State University: California Maritime Academy.

SUMMARY

This bill updates the list of campuses of the California State University (CSU) that are the property of the state to include “Cal Poly Maritime” and “Cal Poly Maritime Academy” to reflect the recent name change and transition of CSU, California Maritime Academy.

BACKGROUND

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the CSU system, made up of 23 campuses, and bestows upon the CSU Trustees, through the CSU Board of Trustees, the powers, duties, and functions with respect to the management, administration, and control of the CSU system. (Education Code (EC) § 66606 and 89030, et seq.)
- 2) Declares that all of the following names are the property of the state:
 - a) “California State University;”
 - b) The names of all educational institutions in the state with names containing the words “California State University;”
 - c) All of the following names:
 - i) “California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo;”
 - ii) “California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt;”
 - iii) “California State Polytechnic University, Pomona;”
 - iv) “California Maritime Academy;”
 - v) “Humboldt State University;”
 - vi) “Sonoma State University;”
 - vii) “San Francisco State University;”

- viii) "San Jose State University;" and,
- viii) "San Diego State University."
- d) Abbreviations of names listed in subparagraphs a), b), and c) above, including, but not necessarily limited to, all of the following:
 - i) "Cal State;"
 - ii) "Cal Maritime;"
 - iii) "Humboldt State;"
 - iv) "Sonoma State;"
 - v) "San Francisco State;"
 - vi) "San Jose State;"
 - vii) "San Diego State;"
 - viii) "Cal Poly;" and,
 - ix) "CSU." (EC § 89005.5)

ANALYSIS

- 1) This bill updates the list of abbreviated names for educational institutions of the CSU, which are property of the state, by adding "Cal Poly Maritime" and "Cal Poly Maritime Academy".

STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) **Need for the bill.** According to the author, "AB 2693 will create parity by codifying Cal Poly Maritime's abbreviated name change. This change will create alignment with the twenty-three other CSU campuses that have abbreviations. This is a timely update as CSU Maritime will complete its formal integration under Cal Poly's administrative structure during the fall of 2026."
- 2) **CSU Maritime Academy.** The CSU Maritime Academy, commonly known as Cal Maritime, has operated for more than 90 years and is the only degree-granting maritime academy on the West Coast. Over that time, it grew from a small nautical training school into a specialized campus within the CSU system, with students, faculty, and alumni contributing to the state and nation in both wartime and peacetime. It is one of only six degree-granting state maritime academies in the United States that produce U.S. Coast Guard-licensed merchant mariner officers, preparing graduates for careers in engineering, oceanography, transportation, global logistics, marine sciences, and international relations.

Located on a 92-acre waterfront campus in Vallejo, Cal Maritime offers seven specialized undergraduate majors and maintains a 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio, with programs emphasizing a “learn by doing” approach that includes required internships and a Summer Sea Term aboard the 500-foot Training Ship Golden Bear. Enrollment, however, has declined substantially in recent years: according to the Cal Poly Maritime Integration FAQ, headcount fell roughly 31% over seven years, from 1,107 students in 2016–17 to 761 in 2023–24, with fall 2024 enrollment at 804. Combined with rising compensation and operating costs, this decline created a projected budget deficit that the CSU determined was unsustainable for Cal Maritime as a standalone institution.

To preserve the Cal Maritime’s federally regulated licensure programs and its role in national and economic security, the CSU Board of Trustees voted on November 21, 2024, to approve the chancellor’s recommendation to integrate Cal Maritime with Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The integration is structured as a permanent solution rather than a temporary financial fix, supported by \$35 million in one-time CSU funds distributed over seven years. Effective July 1, 2025, the two institutions began operating as a single university under Cal Poly President Dr. Jeffrey D. Armstrong, with Vice President/CEO Dr. Corey Cook leading what is now called the Cal Poly Solano Campus, and Rear Admiral Eric C. Jones, U.S. Maritime Service, serving as Superintendent of Cal Poly Maritime Academy - which is housed at the Solano campus.

Formal integration completes in fall 2026, when the first students will enroll as Cal Poly students under a single administrative structure, budget, academic senate, student association, alumni association, and foundation. The new purpose-built National Security Multi-Mission Vessel-class training ship Golden State is expected to arrive early 2027, with associated waterfront upgrades estimated at \$120 million (at least 80% federally funded).

This bill provides a statutory update to reflect Cal Maritime’s recent integration with Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

SUPPORT

None received

OPPOSITION

None received

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