



Illinois Community College Faculty Association

Friday, April 26, 2024, 8:30 – 10:00 am, Via Zoom

Members present: Julia DiLiberti, Carla Presnell, Mary Rojas-Carlson, Joseph Przybyla, Terri Birch, Jean-Marie Taylor, Jeremy Bachelor, Dan Kernler, and Hong Fei
ICCB, ICCTA Officers Present: Melvin Harrison, Jim Reed, Marcus Brown, and Brian Durham

I. Call to convene.

II. Introducing Members and ICCB Officers.

III. Conversation With ICCB on BILL 5020:

Discussion centered around impact of the bill in schools and in districts

Issues brought up were:

- Where the ICCB stands vis-à-vis ICCFA
- What happens after the HB5020 moves forward in the event it passes:
- What will ICCB's role be in oversight or in any disputed issues?
- Regarding the committee that is called to convene 60 days after the bill's passing:
 - Committee Staffing (any details on the process),
 - Questions about: Faculty representation, particularly given that the last time this committee was functioning only 1 faculty member was on it.
 - ICCB noted that there are many stakeholders to consider when staffing the committee and many considerations for ways to have better presentations for all.
 - Role of NIU and other community organizations and/or their connection to the Model Partnership Agreement last time and this time.
 - A request was made to consider adding faculty members to any committees where there is flexibility particularly as community college faculty are especially equipped in knowing what credentials for those in their discipline should be and for on the ground information.
- School shopping
- Continued inequities the bill seems to exacerbate and/or way to reach parity
- Curriculum creation, particularly as it is purview of fulltime cc faculty.
- Dual Credit Revenue
 - What happens to the Dual Credit Revenue; how that does or does not help students.
 - Chipping away of autonomy of community colleges.
 - Effects of the bill on unions
 - Loss of faculty jobs
 - Effects of the bill on non-dual credit students:
 - Letting students bypass community college, hurts college revenue, and takes away our ability to serve non-dual credit students.

- Proposal to add language to use the revenue to support marginalized students and programs.

IV. Legislative Report by VP Legislative Affairs, Joe Przybyla

Pending legislation about pensions for public employees, about changing Tier 2 reverting to Tier 1. Will report back to the progress and what's proposed.

V. Adjourned.

Addendum:

Committee Members:

ICCB Appointed:

Mike Boyd, Vice President and Student Success, Kankakee Community College

Peggy Heinrich, Vice President of Teaching, Learning, and Student Development, Elgin Community College

Sean Noonan, Sociology Professor, Harper College

Tom Ramage, President, Parkland College

Karen Weiss, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Southern Illinois College

Mark Potter, Provost & Chief Academic Officer, City College of Chicago

Illinois State Board of Education Appointed:

John Braglia, Educator, District 211

Sharon Desmulin-Kherat, Superintendent, Peoria Public Schools

Jesse Faber, Educator, Pontiac Township High School

Bridget French, Executive Director, Rockford Public Schools

Lynn Panega, Superintendent, Lake Park High School

Michael Deuser, Chief of College and Career Success, Chicago Public Schools

Statement:

While we are fully committed to addressing existing dual credit equity gaps, it's imperative to recognize that the current proposal of HB5020 will not effectively tackle this issue. Instead, it would grant high school districts authority over many aspects of our courses and lower the qualifications required for dual credit teachers by allowing a committee with high school stakeholders to determine what it means to have 18 graduate credits in the discipline in an effort to address "the teacher shortage" and, therefore, offer more dual credit courses at the high schools. Our concern is compounded by the fact that accreditation standards stipulate uniform credentialing across all IAI (general education) courses, meaning any reduction in qualifications for dual credit high school teachers would lower the credentials for community college instructors as well. Significantly more effective solutions include:

- increasing teacher pay
- utilizing community college faculty to teach dual credit courses
- fixing the Tier II retirement system to increase teacher retention and attraction
- ensuring professional development funds for high school teachers who want to become credentialed to teach dual credit courses
- increasing funding at the elementary level to ensure students are at grade-level before reaching high school so they meet state standards and eligibility for dual credit coursework
- and many others!

We know that this bill will pass at some point, and it does provide some clarity and assurances for the community colleges, for example, as it relates to community colleges having the right of first refusal on dual credit courses. On further analysis of our concerns and interpretations, we have distilled our major focus to the following key points:

1. Ensure that the **Dual Credit Instructor Qualification Framework Committee only determine qualifications for Career and Technical Education course instructors** by removing their role in deciding what it means to have 18 graduate credits in the discipline for IAI* (general education) courses; the Higher Learning Commission stipulates that this is to be determined by each individual institution. A reduction in discipline-specific knowledge of the instructor would have detrimental effects on student learning for dual credit and community college students.
2. Ensure the **alternative provider appeals process is meaningful**; as currently stated, there is not a scenario where the high school district would be prevented from seeking an alternative provider, even if they lose their appeal before the Illinois Community College Board.
3. Ensure the **Model Partnership Agreement Committee**, upon its reconvening, **limits the scope of its work** to the items described in Sec. 16 of the law; the last time this committee convened, they introduced elements not previously contemplated in the law.