

The League and ACBO believe the system should receive an automatic backfill of unrealized RDA proceeds. Much attention is made about “paying down the wall of debt” and providing more stability – however the community college will continue to experience revenue fluctuations of their unrestricted general apportionment allocation (general fund, property taxes, and enrollment fees) regardless of an “aggressive” deferral buy down schedule. For the community colleges every time one of the components of the unrestricted general apportionment comes in below budget act estimates (this year it is RDA property taxes) the community college are forced to extend a short-term loan to the state and WAIT until the end of the fiscal year for the state to make the colleges whole. For example, in the current year at the First Principal apportionment the system experienced a shortfall in excess of \$300 million primarily attributed to a shortfall of RDA revenue. This means our community college districts our forced to extend a short term loan to the state while the system waits for repayment in June 2013. It is important to underscore how much uncertainty and confusion is caused at local community college districts in regards to the management of “cash” and of course managing the college communities expectations as each district await repayment of the short term loan. There is a better way to handle this situation and the template for the solution now exists in the K-12 system. K-12 is not forced to carry the shortfall until the end of the fiscal year. K-12 is made whole at each apportionment – we ask for similar treatment to ensure the colleges benefit from the fiscal stability afforded deferral buy down.