

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 7, 2002

SENATE BILL

No. 1113

Introduced by Senator Polanco

February 23, 2001

An act to add Section ~~49605~~ 89004.5 to the Education Code, relating to educational counseling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1113, as amended, Polanco. ~~Education: guidance~~ *Educational counseling: oversight study.*

Under existing law, the governing board of a school district is authorized to provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all pupils enrolled in the schools in the district. Under existing law, this comprehensive counseling program includes, but is not limited to, academic counseling, in which pupils receive counseling in specified areas.

Existing law establishes the California State University under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and authorizes the operation of its various campuses throughout the state.

This bill would, *in the event that a pilot program, funded from federal or private resources, or both, is established for the purpose of creating career counseling positions in public high schools*, authorize the ~~governing board of a school district to establish a comprehensive guidance counseling program for pupils who do not plan to attend a college or university after graduating from high school~~ The bill would state that this guidance counseling program may include, but is not limited to, providing vocational education, job skills training, life skills, and whatever other skills the school considers helpful in preparing those pupils for the transition out of high school *trustees to designate a*

campus that maintains a school or department of education to conduct an oversight study of the pilot program and to provide a written summary of the study, including any recommendations deemed appropriate by the school or department, to the Legislature, the Governor, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction no later than January 1, 2006. This provision would not be operative unless and until the trustees certify, by resolution, that sufficient funding has been received by the trustees from federal or private sources, or both, on or before January 1, 2005, for the study and report.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. — Section 49605 is added to the Education Code;~~
- 2 *SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
- 3 *following:*
- 4 *(1) Current law authorizes educational counseling to be*
- 5 *provided to all pupils in a school district. This educational*
- 6 *counseling includes academic, career and vocational, and*
- 7 *personal and social subject matter.*
- 8 *(2) Due to budgetary constraints, guidance counseling is the*
- 9 *exception, not the rule, in most school districts and county offices*
- 10 *of education. If counseling is provided, it most often focuses on*
- 11 *college-bound academic counseling. Other types of counseling are*
- 12 *the first to be eliminated.*
- 13 *(3) Approximately half of all high school pupils are not*
- 14 *immediately college-bound from high school, yet most counseling*
- 15 *services are focused on college-bound pupils.*
- 16 *(4) The success of our future workforce depends on having a*
- 17 *well-rounded body of high school graduates with a variety of*
- 18 *abilities--including professional, trade, and labor skills.*
- 19 *(5) Despite the best efforts of schools, many high school pupils*
- 20 *are not adequately prepared to enter the ‘real world.’ Those who*
- 21 *do not choose to go to college immediately from high school often*
- 22 *have many needs that currently are not addressed--including*
- 23 *social, vocational, emotional, or basic life skills.*
- 24 *(6) In order to ensure the success of high school graduates, and*
- 25 *to assist some who might not otherwise graduate, it is imperative*
- 26 *that we provide the opportunity for noncollege bound pupils to*



1 *have the resources to successfully enter the workforce from high*
2 *school.*

3 *(7) Providing a career counselor, who would help to mentor a*
4 *pupil for up to one year after high school, and be a resource for*
5 *access to life skills, vocational skills, psychological counseling,*
6 *substance abuse treatment, or other services which assist that*
7 *pupil in becoming a productive member of society, is a wise*
8 *investment of taxpayer dollars.*

9 *(8) In view of budget constraints, there is a great interest*
10 *throughout the state in setting up a pilot program that would*
11 *provide federal or private funding to establish career counseling*
12 *positions in public high schools throughout the state that are most*
13 *in need of this service.*

14 *(9) The various campuses of the California State University*
15 *currently provide professional preparation for most of the*
16 *counselors in the state.*

17 *(b) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature, in enacting*
18 *Section 89004.5 of the Education Code, to enable the Trustees of*
19 *the California State University to improve the university's*
20 *counselor preparation programs by studying innovative*
21 *approaches to creating career counselor positions in the public*
22 *high schools.*

23 *SEC. 2. Section 89004.5 is added to the Education Code, to*
24 *read:*

25 *89004.5. In the event that a pilot program, funded from*
26 *federal or private sources, or both, is established for the purpose*
27 *of creating career counseling positions in public high schools, the*
28 *trustees may designate a campus that maintains a school or*
29 *department of education to accomplish both of the following:*

30 *(a) To conduct an oversight study of the pilot program.*

31 *(b) To provide a written summary of the study, including any*
32 *recommendations deemed appropriate by the school or*
33 *department, to the Legislature, the Governor, and the*
34 *Superintendent of Public Instruction no later than January 1,*
35 *2006.*

36 *SEC. 3. Section 2 of this act shall not become operative unless*
37 *and until the Trustees of the California State University certify, by*
38 *resolution, that sufficient funding has been received by the trustees*
39 *from federal or private sources, or both, on or before January 1,*



1 2005, for the study and report referenced in Section 89004.5 of the
2 Education Code.

3 to read:

4 49605.—The governing board of a school district may establish
5 a comprehensive guidance counseling program for pupils who do
6 not plan to attend a college or university after graduating from high
7 school. This guidance counseling program may include, but is not
8 limited to, providing vocational education, job skills training, life
9 skills, and whatever other skills the school considers helpful in
10 preparing those pupils for the transition out of high school.

