

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 5, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1330

Introduced by Assembly Member Simitian

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 8702 of, *and to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 8780) to Chapter 4 of Part 6 of, the Education Code, relating to instructional programs.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1330, as amended, Simitian. ~~Environmental education~~ *Outdoor Experiential Program.*

Existing law contains legislative findings and declarations regarding the need for an educational program that is designed to build attitudes of stewardship toward the maintenance of the quality of our environment and to enable all citizens to use resources wisely.

~~This bill would, in addition, declare that those attitudes are best developed at an early age through programs that encourage personal responsibility and participation in the local community~~ *establish the Outdoor Experiential Program, the purpose of which is to foster stewardship of the environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use of natural resources. The bill would require the State Department of Education to administer the program and, in conjunction with, and according to a priority system developed by, the Sierra Club Foundation, select applicants for participation in the program, pursuant to prescribed criteria. The bill would require the department to conduct an evaluation of the program and submit a report to the Legislature no later than February 1, 2005. The bill would*

provide that the program and the requirement of its evaluation is to be implemented only if private funds are made available for purposes all costs of the program and its evaluation.

This bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2005, and repeal them on January 1, 2006, unless a later enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2006, deletes or extends that date.

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 8702 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 8702. The Legislature further finds and declares that an
4 educational program is needed that is designed to build necessary
5 attitudes of stewardship toward the maintenance of the quality of
6 our common environment and to enable all citizens to use wisely,
7 and not destructively, the resources at their disposal. These
8 attitudes are best developed at an early age through programs that
9 encourage personal responsibility and participation in the local
10 community.

11 SEC. 2. Article 6 (commencing with Section 8780) is added to
12 Chapter 4 of Part 6 of the Education Code, to read:

13
14 Article 6. Outdoor Experiential Program

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16 8780. There is hereby established the Outdoor Experiential
17 Program for the purpose of fostering stewardship of the
18 environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use
19 of natural resources, and showcasing the diversity of programs
20 that fulfil that purpose.

21 8781. (a) The State Department of Education shall
22 administer the program and shall, in conjunction with the Sierra
23 Club Foundation, select diverse entities to implement the program
24 according to a priority scoring system developed by the Sierra
25 Club Foundation based on the eligibility requirements enumerated
26 in subdivision (b), upon application.

27 (b) In order to be eligible, applicants shall do all of the
28 following:

29 (1) Serve at-risk youth and underserved demographic groups.



1 (2) *Encourage collaboration with other entities in the*
2 *provision of services.*

3 (3) *Serve a minimum adequate number of participants.*

4 (4) *Commit a minimum adequate amount of resources to the*
5 *program.*

6 (5) *Promote outdoor educational activities.*

7 (6) *Provide a curriculum that fosters stewardship of the*
8 *environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use*
9 *of natural resources.*

10 (7) *Include service-learning and community outreach*
11 *components for the purpose of building partnerships between*
12 *participants and local communities.*

13 8782. (a) *The State Department of Education shall evaluate*
14 *the program and submit a report to the Legislature on its findings*
15 *and recommendations no later than February 1, 2005.*

16 8783. *This article shall be implemented only if all costs of the*
17 *program and its evaluation are funded with private donations.*

18 8784. *This article shall become inoperative on July 1, 2005,*
19 *and, as of January 1, 2006, is repealed, unless a later enacted*
20 *statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2006,*
21 *deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and*
22 *is repealed.*

