

**Introduced by Senator Knight**

February 18, 2003

An act to add Division 26 (commencing with Section 26000) to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to abstinence education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 267, as introduced, Knight. Abstinence education.

Existing federal law provides for grants to states to enable the states to provide abstinence education.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Services to develop and implement a program of abstinence education in a manner that would maximize federal financial participation, and would specify the purpose of the program and the subjects to be included in the abstinence education program.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Division 26 (commencing with Section 26000)  
2 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

3  
4 DIVISION 26. ABSTINENCE EDUCATION

5  
6 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL

7  
8 26000. For purposes of this division, the definitions contained  
9 in this chapter shall govern the construction of this division.



1 26001. “Abstinence education program” means an  
 2 educational or motivational program that does all of the following:  
 3 (a) It has as its exclusive purpose, teaching the social,  
 4 psychological, and health gains to be realized by abstaining from  
 5 sexual activity.  
 6 (b) It teaches all of the following:  
 7 (1) Abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage as the  
 8 expected standard for all schoolage children.  
 9 (2) Abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to  
 10 avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases,  
 11 and other associated health problems.  
 12 (3) A mutually faithful monogamous relationship in context of  
 13 marriage is the expected standard of human sexual activity.  
 14 (4) Sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely  
 15 to have harmful psychological and physical effects.  
 16 (5) Bearing children out-of-wedlock is likely to have harmful  
 17 consequences for the child, the child’s parents, and society.  
 18 (6) How young people may reject sexual advances and how  
 19 alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances.  
 20 (7) The importance of attaining self-sufficiency before  
 21 engaging in sexual activity.  
 22 26002. “Department” means the State Department of Health  
 23 Services.

24  
25 CHAPTER 2. ABSTINENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM

26  
 27 26020. The department shall develop and implement a  
 28 program of abstinence education.  
 29 26022. The department shall implement the abstinence  
 30 education program in a manner to maximize federal financial  
 31 participation under Section 710 of Title 42 of the United States  
 32 Code and any other applicable federal law and regulations.  
 33 26024. The department shall adopt regulations for the  
 34 implementation of this division.

