

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 723

Introduced by Assembly Member Chu

February 17, 2005

An act to add Section 51231 to the Education Code, relating to public school curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 723, as introduced, Chu. Public school curriculum: tolerance instruction.

Existing law provides the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, and requires a school district to offer instruction on a variety of subjects.

This bill would require the State Department of Education to develop a curriculum that provides instruction on tolerance, with certain requirements. The bill would require a school district to provide this instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, thereby creating a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 51231 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:

3 51231. (a) The department shall develop a model curriculum
4 that provides instruction on tolerance for members of different
5 racial, ethnic, or religious groups, for pupils in kindergarten and
6 grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

7 (b) In developing the curriculum described in subdivision (a),
8 the department shall seek the advice of individuals and groups
9 from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds,
10 and civil rights organizations.

11 (c) A school district shall provide the instruction developed
12 pursuant to subdivision (a) to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1
13 to 12, inclusive.

14 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
15 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
16 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
17 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
18 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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