

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 17, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2489**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Leno**

February 23, 2006

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An act to amend ~~Section 42921 of, to add Sections 66025.1, 69433.2, and 90001.5 to Sections 42921 and 69435 of, to add Section 90001.5 to, and to add Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 89348) to Part 55 of, and to add Article 6.5 (commencing with Section 92660) to Chapter 6 of Part 57 of Division 9 of, the Education Code, relating to foster youth.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2489, as amended, Leno. Foster youth: educational *and support* services: *Foster Youth Higher Education Preparation and Support Act of 2006: California Guardian Scholars Program.*

(1) Under existing law, 6 unified school districts and ~~consortium~~ *consortia* operating children services program sites that provide instruction, counseling, tutoring, and related services for foster children receive an allowance from the State School Fund. Existing law also authorizes other school districts to provide educational services for foster children who reside in a regularly established licensed or approved foster home, located within the boundaries of a program site, pursuant to a commitment by a juvenile court. Existing law provides for funding for those other school districts for the provision of those services in any fiscal year, upon appropriation from the General Fund, or, if sufficient funds are available, from the Foster Children and Parent Training Fund.

~~This bill would, instead, which would be known as the Foster Youth Higher Education Preparation and Support Act of 2006, would make statements of legislative intent relating to the establishment and provision of funding for a matching program for federal Chafee Higher Education Grants for foster youth.~~

~~With respect to educational and support services for foster youth, this bill would provide that, in addition to the 6 specified program sites, any other county office of education, consortium of school districts in cooperation with the county office of education, or consortium of county offices of education, may elect to apply to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for grant funding, to the extent funds are available, to operate an education-based foster youth services program to provide educational and support services for foster children.~~

~~The bill would require, if sufficient funds are available, these programs to have at least one educational services advocate, and would authorize foster youth services programs that have a foster youth services coordinator to designate that individual as the educational services advocate. The bill would specify the duties to be performed by these advocates. It would set priorities for the services to be delivered by these programs.~~

~~(2) Existing law establishes categories of students for whom mandatory systemwide fees or tuition at the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges are waived. These provisions apply to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California act, by resolution, to make them applicable.~~

~~The bill would establish a waiver from mandatory systemwide fees or tuition at the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, for resident foster youth who resided in foster care at age 14 or older. That provision would apply to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California acts, by resolution, to make it applicable. To the extent that this bill would require community colleges to adjust their procedures for calculating enrollment fees, it would impose a state-mandated local program.~~

~~(3)~~

~~(2) The Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcello Cal Grant Act establishes the Cal Grant A and B entitlement awards and the California Community College Transfer Entitlement awards, under the~~

administration of the Student Aid Commission, and establishes eligibility requirements for awards under these programs for participating students attending qualifying institutions. ~~The act requires an applicant to complete a financial aid application to determine eligibility, including grade point average and certain financial information.~~ *An existing provision of the act prohibits more than 2% of new Cal Grant B award recipients enrolling for the first time in an institution of postsecondary education from being eligible for payments for tuition or fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance.*

~~This bill would exempt a person who resided in a regularly established licensed or approved foster home at 14 years of age or older, and who is accepted to a public postsecondary education institution in this state, from the requirements to submit a grade point average and information to determine financial need on an official financial aid application for the purposes of the program, notwithstanding this 2% limitation, authorize new Cal Grant B award recipients who are current or former foster youth enrolling for the first time in an institution of postsecondary education to be eligible for payments of tuition and fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance.~~

*(3) Existing law establishes the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University; the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California; and the California Community Colleges under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing provisions of the California Constitution establish the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and existing statutes provide that the superintendent is the ex officio director of the State Department of Education.*

*This bill would establish the California Guardian Scholars Program for the purpose of providing comprehensive support on college and university campuses to students who are former foster youth. The bill would provide that the program would be jointly administered by the trustees, regents, board of governors, and superintendent. The bill would authorize public postsecondary institutions to submit applications to the administrator of the program for competitive grants to fund projects intended to improve foster youth performance and graduation rates in postsecondary education. The bill would set*

*forth criteria to be considered in recommending projects for funding under the program. The bill would require the trustees, regents, board of governors, and superintendent to adopt rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of the program.*

(4) Existing law imposes certain requirements on the California State University with respect to student housing.

This bill would require a state university that maintains student housing facilities open for occupation on a year-round basis to give priority to ~~emancipated~~ *current and former* foster youth, as ~~defined~~ *specified*. The bill would apply a similar provision to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California act, by resolution, to make it applicable.

~~(5) The bill would make statements of legislative intent relating to the establishment and provision of funding for a matching program for federal Chaffee Higher Education Grants for foster youth. The provisions of the bill would be known as the Foster Youth Higher Education Preparation and Support Act of 2006.~~

~~(6) 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.~~

~~(5) Existing law establishes the Department of Social Services in the Health and Human Services Agency.~~

~~This bill would require the department to annually notify in writing all foster youth aged 13 and older of the educational support available to them pursuant to this bill.~~

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

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

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 “Foster Youth Higher Education Preparation and Support Act of  
3 2006.”

4 SEC. 2. ~~(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish and~~  
5 ~~provide funding through the state budget process for a matching~~

1 ~~program for federal Chaffee Higher Education Grants for foster~~  
2 ~~youth to fulfill the commitment of support to foster youth that~~  
3 ~~continue on to higher education.~~

4 ~~(b) It is the further intent of the Legislature to make federal~~  
5 ~~Chaffee Higher Education Grants available to foster youth~~  
6 ~~recipients in advance of the adoption of the federal budget in~~  
7 ~~October.~~

8 *SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the*  
9 *following:*

10 *(1) California's foster youth face enormous and unique*  
11 *challenges in their transition to adulthood and self sufficiency.*

12 *(2) In many cases, foster youth do not have the support and*  
13 *assistance enjoyed by other students as they make decisions*  
14 *related to postsecondary education and undertake the many*  
15 *processes associated with admission and attendance.*

16 *(3) The state provides a guarantee of student financial*  
17 *assistance to meritorious, needy students through its Cal Grant*  
18 *entitlement awards, including the Cal Grant A Entitlement*  
19 *Awards, the Cal Grant B Entitlement Awards, and the California*  
20 *Community College Transfer Entitlement Awards. These*  
21 *programs are limited by strict deadlines, and provide a limited*  
22 *window of opportunity for application. Foster youth are fully*  
23 *eligible for these programs and are encouraged to apply.*

24 *(4) Foster youth may be less aware of deadlines and face*  
25 *other barriers or circumstances that may limit or otherwise affect*  
26 *their ability to apply for assistance or enter postsecondary*  
27 *education in the manner required by these programs.*

28 *(5) It is the intent of the Legislature to remove these barriers*  
29 *so that current and former meritorious foster youth may*  
30 *participate more fully in the Cal Grant entitlement programs.*

31 *(6) It is in the best interests of the state and its foster youth to*  
32 *provide the service and financial support necessary to help these*  
33 *youth achieve their goals.*

34 *(7) Although California provides public postsecondary*  
35 *education at a lower price than is charged for comparable*  
36 *education in other states, foster youth still face barriers in*  
37 *accessing higher education, including insufficient support in*  
38 *preparing for college, gaps in the student financial aid funds*  
39 *targeted to pay tuition and fees, lack of financial support for*

1 other costs of attendance in college, and problems with  
2 residential stability during college enrollment.

3 (8) The federal Chafee Higher Education Grant Program is a  
4 welcome addition to the partnership of student aid funding  
5 targeted to assist foster youth with vocational and academic  
6 college and university costs, but funding in this program is  
7 insufficient to meet calculated need, and there were unacceptable  
8 and damaging delays in making payments to eligible foster youth  
9 in the 2005–06 fiscal year.

10 (b) Thus, it is the intent of the Legislature to accomplish all of  
11 the following:

12 (1) To create additional opportunities for local  
13 education-based foster youth services programs.

14 (2) To close gaps in the mixture of California student aid  
15 programs to ensure that foster youth receive sufficient financial  
16 aid to pay their systemwide and campus fees at California public  
17 colleges and universities.

18 (3) To provide additional matching funds for the federal  
19 Chafee Higher Education Grant Program through the state  
20 budget process to fulfill the commitment to support the cost of  
21 attendance for foster youth.

22 (4) To ensure timely payments of Chafee higher education  
23 grants to foster youths and to thus increase foster youths’  
24 chances at success in higher education by accomplishing both of  
25 the following:

26 (A) Providing funding for the Chafee Higher Education Grant  
27 Program in anticipation of federal funding to be received after  
28 adoption of the federal budget in October 2006.

29 (B) Encouraging the Department of Social Services and the  
30 California Student Aid Commission to review their joint and  
31 separate responsibilities regarding this program, and to make all  
32 necessary improvements to ensure that the unacceptable delays  
33 in the 2005–06 fiscal year are not repeated.

34 SEC. 3. Section 42921 of the Education Code is amended to  
35 read:

36 42921. (a) In addition to the six program sites specified in  
37 Section 42920, any other county office of education, consortium  
38 of school districts in cooperation with the county office of  
39 education, or consortium of county offices of education may  
40 elect to apply to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for

1 grant funding, to the extent funds are available, to operate an  
2 education-based foster youth services program to provide  
3 educational *and support* services for children who reside in a  
4 regularly established licensed or approved foster home located  
5 within the boundaries of the program site. *The provision of*  
6 *educational and support services to foster youth in licensed or*  
7 *approved foster homes shall also apply to foster youth services*  
8 *programs in operation as of January 1, 2007, and receiving*  
9 *grant funding.*

10 (b) Each foster youth services program operated pursuant to  
11 this chapter shall, if sufficient funds are available, have at least  
12 one person identified as the foster youth educational services  
13 advocate, ~~who~~. *Foster youth services programs that have a foster*  
14 *youth services coordinator may designate that individual as the*  
15 *educational services advocate. The foster youth educational*  
16 *services advocate shall facilitate the provision of educational*  
17 *services pursuant to subdivision (d) to any foster child in the*  
18 *county who is either under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court*  
19 *pursuant to Section 300 of the Welfare and Institutions Code or*  
20 *under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court pursuant to Section*  
21 *601 or 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code who is placed in*  
22 *a group home, to the extent that funding is made available for the*  
23 *provision of these services. A program operated pursuant to this*  
24 *chapter may prescribe the methodology for determining which*  
25 *children may be served. Applicable methodologies may include,*  
26 *but are not limited to, serving specific age groups, serving*  
27 *children in specific geographic areas of the county or counties in*  
28 *which the program operates, or serving the children with the*  
29 *greatest-need. academic need. It is the intent of the Legislature*  
30 *that children with the greatest need for services be identified as*  
31 *the first priority for foster youth services.*

32 (c) The responsibilities of the foster youth educational services  
33 advocate shall include, but shall not be limited to:

34 (1) Working with the child welfare agency to minimize  
35 changes in school placement.

36 (2) Facilitating the prompt transfer of educational records,  
37 including the health and education passport, between educational  
38 institutions when placement changes are necessary.

39 (3) Providing information to the child welfare agency to assist  
40 the child welfare agency to deliver services to foster children,

1 including, but not limited to, information required for inclusion  
2 in court reports by Section 16010 of the Welfare and Institutions  
3 Code.

4 (4) Responding to requests from the juvenile court for  
5 information and working with the court to ensure the delivery or  
6 coordination of necessary educational services.

7 (5) Working to obtain and identify, and link children to,  
8 mentoring, tutoring, transitional services, vocational training,  
9 emancipation services, and other services designed to enhance  
10 the educational prospects of foster children.

11 (6) Facilitating communication between the foster care  
12 provider, the teacher, and any other school staff or education  
13 service providers for the child.

14 (7) Sharing information with the foster care provider regarding  
15 available training programs that address education issues for  
16 children in foster care.

17 (8) Referring caregivers of foster youth who have special  
18 education needs to ~~the Community Alliance or other~~ special  
19 education advocates ~~and others who have helpful information on~~  
20 *who are knowledgeable about special education procedural*  
21 *safeguards, regulations, and legal mandates.*

22 (d) Each foster youth services program operated pursuant to  
23 this chapter shall include guiding principles that establish a  
24 hierarchy of services, in accordance with the following order:

25 (1) Provide, or arrange for the referral to, tutoring services for  
26 foster youth.

27 (2) Provide, or arrange for the referral to, services that meet  
28 local needs identified through collaborative relationships and  
29 local advisory groups, which may include, but shall not be  
30 limited to, all of the following:

31 (A) Mentoring.

32 (B) Counseling.

33 (C) Transitioning services.

34 (D) Emancipation services.

35 (3) Facilitation of timely individualized education programs  
36 and all special education services.

37 (4) Establishing collaborative relationships and local advisory  
38 groups.

1 (5) Establishing a mechanism for the efficient and expeditious  
2 transfer of health and education records and the health and  
3 education passport.

4 (e) *For purposes of this section, “licensed or approved foster*  
5 *home” means a licensed or approved relative (kin) foster home,*  
6 *licensed foster family home, certified foster family agency home,*  
7 *court-specified home, or licensed care institution (group home).*

8 ~~SEC. 4. Section 66025.1 is added to the Education Code, to~~  
9 ~~read:~~

10 ~~66025.1. (a) No campus of the University of California, the~~  
11 ~~California State University, or the California Community~~  
12 ~~Colleges shall charge any mandatory systemwide tuition or fees,~~  
13 ~~including enrollment fees, registration fees, differential fees, or~~  
14 ~~incidental fees, to a foster youth who resided in foster care at age~~  
15 ~~14 or older.~~

16 ~~(b) The waiver of tuition or fees under this section shall apply~~  
17 ~~only to a person who is determined to be a resident of California~~  
18 ~~pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 68000) of Part~~  
19 ~~41.~~

20 ~~(c) No provision of this section shall apply to the University of~~  
21 ~~California except to the extent that the Regents of the University~~  
22 ~~of California, by appropriate resolution, make that provision~~  
23 ~~applicable.~~

24 ~~SEC. 5. Section 69433.2 is added to the Education Code, to~~  
25 ~~read:~~

26 ~~69433.2. Notwithstanding Section 69432.9 or 69433, or any~~  
27 ~~other provision of this chapter, a person who resided in a~~  
28 ~~regularly established licensed or approved foster home at 14~~  
29 ~~years of age or older, and who is accepted to a public~~  
30 ~~postsecondary education institution in this state, shall not be~~  
31 ~~required to submit any of the following information on an official~~  
32 ~~financial aid application for the purposes of this chapter:~~

33 ~~(a) Grade point average.~~

34 ~~(b) Information to determine financial need.~~

35 ~~SEC. 4. Section 69435 of the Education Code is amended to~~  
36 ~~read:~~

37 ~~69435. (a) (1) Commencing with the 2001–02 academic~~  
38 ~~year, and each academic year thereafter, a Cal Grant B award~~  
39 ~~shall be used only for tuition, student fees, and access costs in a~~

1 for-credit instructional program that is not less than one academic  
2 year in length.

3 (2) The commission shall award access grants in a student's  
4 first academic year. In subsequent years, the award shall include  
5 an additional amount to pay tuition or fees, or both, to attend  
6 college at a public or private four-year college or university or  
7 other qualifying institution for all Cal Grant B awards pursuant to  
8 paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 66021.2. In no event  
9 shall the total award in any year exceed the applicant's calculated  
10 financial need.

11 (3) ~~Not more than 2~~ *Two* percent of new Cal Grant B  
12 recipients enrolling for the first time in an institution of  
13 postsecondary education shall be eligible for payments for tuition  
14 or fees, or both, in their first academic year of attendance. The  
15 commission shall adopt regulations specifying the criteria used to  
16 determine which applicants, if any, receive both tuition and fees  
17 plus the access grant in the first year of enrollment. Priority shall  
18 be given to students with the lowest expected family contribution  
19 pursuant to Section 69432.7 and the highest level of academic  
20 merit.

21 (4) *Notwithstanding paragraph (3), new Cal Grant B*  
22 *recipients who are current or former foster youth enrolling for*  
23 *the first time in an institution of postsecondary education shall be*  
24 *eligible for payments of tuition and fees, or both, in their first*  
25 *academic year of attendance.*

26 (b) An award for access costs under this article shall be in an  
27 annual amount not to exceed one thousand five hundred fifty-one  
28 dollars (\$1,551). This amount may be adjusted in the annual  
29 Budget Act.

30 *SEC. 5. Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 89348) is*  
31 *added to Part 55 of the Education Code, to read:*

32

33 *CHAPTER 3.5. CALIFORNIA GUARDIAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM*

34

35 *89348. The California Guardian Scholars Program is hereby*  
36 *established. The program shall be jointly administered by the*  
37 *Trustees of the California State University, the Regents of the*  
38 *University of California, the Board of Governors of the*  
39 *California Community Colleges, and the Superintendent of*  
40 *Public Instruction. The purpose of the program shall be to*

1 provide comprehensive support on college and university  
2 campuses to students who are former foster youth with the  
3 objective of meeting the unique needs of former foster youth and  
4 supporting their rates of matriculation, graduation, academic  
5 success, and transfer to four-year higher education institutions.  
6 Campus projects funded under this chapter shall contain core  
7 support elements, as specified. Campuses receiving grants under  
8 this chapter shall receive a grant annually for five years, to be  
9 utilized for the costs of years 1 to 3, inclusive, and \$40,000 in  
10 years 4 and 5. The State Department of Education shall also  
11 receive grant funding for the purpose of contracting with  
12 community-based organizations to provide technical assistance  
13 to campus programs receiving grants under this section.

14 89348.1. The administrator of the California Guardian  
15 Scholars Program shall establish an advisory committee to assist  
16 in selecting proposals to be funded and developing criteria for  
17 project evaluation. The committee shall include, but shall not  
18 necessarily be limited to, all of the following members:

19 (a) Two representatives of the California Community  
20 Colleges, appointed by the Board of Governors of the California  
21 Community Colleges.

22 (b) Two representatives of the California State University,  
23 appointed by the Chancellor of the California State University.

24 (c) Two representatives of the University of California,  
25 appointed by the President of the University of California.

26 (d) One representative appointed by the Director of the  
27 California Postsecondary Education Commission.

28 (e) One representative of the Foster Youth Services Program  
29 of the State Department of Education.

30 (f) Three representatives that are current or former foster  
31 youth.

32 (g) Two representatives of the Department of Social Services,  
33 appointed by the Director of Social Services.

34 89348.2. The advisory committee established under Section  
35 89348.1 shall make recommendations regarding all of the  
36 following:

37 (a) Development of criteria for awarding grants pursuant to  
38 Section 89348.3.

1 (b) Development of criteria for determining the priority  
2 ranking of schools selected to receive assistance under the  
3 California Guardian Scholars Program.

4 (c) Development of criteria for identifying effective projects.

5 (d) Development of criteria for awarding grants to  
6 community-based programs to provide technical assistance to  
7 campus projects.

8 (e) Development of options identifying additional resources  
9 and programs that promote the program.

10 89348.3. A public postsecondary educational institution may  
11 submit an application to the administrator of the California  
12 Guardian Scholars Program for a competitive grant to fund a  
13 project intended to improve former foster youth performance and  
14 graduation rates in postsecondary education. In addition to its  
15 own criteria for the recommendation of programs for funding,  
16 the advisory committee established under Section 89348.1 shall  
17 give consideration to the following elements in a campus plan:

18 (a) Dedicated campus support staff, including a caring staff  
19 person whose primary responsibility is the Guardian Scholars  
20 Program and affiliated students.

21 (b) One stop shopping: A program structure offering  
22 Guardian Scholars students access to all campus supports  
23 through one person at one site.

24 (c) Housing: Priority for campus housing, and availability of  
25 year-round housing and board. Partnerships with off-campus  
26 resources.

27 (d) Full financial aid package: A grant and scholarship  
28 package covering tuition and living expenses.

29 (e) Academic guidance counseling: Regular contact with a  
30 consistent counselor to develop and monitor an education plan  
31 and provide access to needed academic support. Ability to  
32 identify students at risk of failing or dropping out through  
33 attendance records and progress reports.

34 (f) Planned transition to college: Ability to bring students on  
35 campus immediately after emancipation and to assist with the  
36 transition to college from foster care.

37 (g) Personal guidance and counseling: On-campus mental  
38 health services or off-campus partnerships, including crisis  
39 response.

1 (h) *Career counseling and services: Job placement,*  
2 *job-shadowing, and advising.*

3 (i) *Supplemental supports: Provision of support services such*  
4 *as child care, transportation assistance and book and school*  
5 *supply vouchers.*

6 (j) *Social activities: Regular opportunities for Guardian*  
7 *Scholar students to develop, advise, give feedback on and*  
8 *support the program.*

9 (k) *Student leadership: Opportunities for Guardian Scholar*  
10 *students to develop, advise, give feedback on and support the*  
11 *program.*

12 (l) *Partnerships: Plans for partnership with community-based*  
13 *organizations and feeder schools, connections with social*  
14 *services agencies, independent living programs, and foster youth*  
15 *services programs.*

16 (m) *Data collection on former foster youth student persistence,*  
17 *retention, and graduation rates.*

18 (n) *Internal and external campus support: Commitment of*  
19 *campus leadership, donors, and alumni to support, invest in, and*  
20 *create sustainability for the program.*

21 89348.4. *Upon receipt of an application submitted pursuant*  
22 *to Section 89348.3, the administrator of the California Guardian*  
23 *Scholars Program may award a 50 percent matching grant to the*  
24 *applicant for purposes of funding the proposed project. Each*  
25 *project that receives a grant pursuant to this section shall*  
26 *provide matching funds from existing funds received from a*  
27 *federal, state, local, or private source or a budget increase in*  
28 *those funds, with preference given to projects that have the*  
29 *strongest demonstrated institutional commitment.*

30 89348.5. *The Trustees of the California State University, the*  
31 *Regents of the University of California, the Board of Governors*  
32 *of the California Community Colleges, and the Superintendent of*  
33 *Public Instruction shall adopt rules and regulations necessary*  
34 *for the effective implementation of this chapter.*

35 89348.6. *It is the intent of the Legislature that all current and*  
36 *former foster youth who are current residents of California shall*  
37 *have their systemwide and campus fees covered by grant funds in*  
38 *their packages of student financial aid. To the extent that a*  
39 *student does not receive a Cal Grant award sufficient to cover*

1 *those fees, the California State University shall provide*  
 2 *California State University grant funds to cover all of those fees.*  
 3 *89348.7. The California State University shall annually*  
 4 *provide appropriate information to the Department of Finance*  
 5 *and the Legislative Analyst’s Office to ensure that its budget is*  
 6 *augmented to provide necessary funding for the State University*  
 7 *Grant Program.*

8 SEC. 6. Section 90001.5 is added to the Education Code, to  
 9 read:

10 ~~90001.5. A state university that maintains student housing~~  
 11 ~~facilities open for occupation on a year-round basis shall give~~  
 12 ~~priority to emancipated foster youth, as defined in Section~~  
 13 ~~11403.1 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.~~*In order to ensure*  
 14 *that current and former foster youth who are students at*  
 15 *campuses of the California State University have stable housing,*  
 16 *a campus of the California State University that maintains*  
 17 *student housing facilities shall give priority to current and*  
 18 *former foster youth. In addition, a campus of the California State*  
 19 *University that maintains student housing facilities open for*  
 20 *occupation during school breaks, or on a year-round basis, shall*  
 21 *first give priority to current or former foster youth for residence*  
 22 *in the housing facilities that are open for uninterrupted*  
 23 *year-round occupation, and next give priority to current or*  
 24 *former foster youth for housing that is open for occupation*  
 25 *during the most days in the calendar year.*

26 SEC. 7. Article 6.5 (commencing with Section 92660) is  
 27 added to Chapter 6 of Part 57 of Division 9 of the Education  
 28 Code, to read:

29  
 30 Article 6.5. Housing

31  
 32 92660. (a) ~~A university that maintains student housing~~  
 33 ~~facilities open for occupation on a year-round basis shall give~~  
 34 ~~priority to emancipated foster youth, as defined in Section~~  
 35 ~~11403.1 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.~~*In order to ensure*  
 36 *that current and former foster youth who are students at*  
 37 *campuses of the University of California have stable housing, a*  
 38 *campus of the University of California that maintains student*  
 39 *housing facilities shall give priority to current and former foster*  
 40 *youth. In addition, a campus of the University of California that*

1 *maintains student housing facilities open for occupation during*  
2 *school breaks, or on a year-round basis, shall first give priority*  
3 *to current or former foster youth for residence in the housing*  
4 *facilities that are open for uninterrupted year-round occupation,*  
5 *and next give priority to current or former foster youth for*  
6 *housing that is open for occupation during the most days in the*  
7 *calendar year.*

8 (b) Subdivision (a) shall not apply to the University of  
9 California except to the extent that the Regents of the University  
10 of California, by appropriate resolution, make that provision  
11 applicable.

12 ~~SEC. 8. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~  
13 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~  
14 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~  
15 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~  
16 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~

17 *92660.1. It is the intent of the Legislature that all current and*  
18 *former foster youth who are current residents of California shall*  
19 *have their systemwide and campus fees covered by grant funds in*  
20 *their packages of student financial aid. To the extent that a*  
21 *student does not receive a Cal Grant award sufficient to cover*  
22 *those fees, the University of California is requested to provide*  
23 *University of California grant funds to cover all of those fees.*

24 *92660.2. The University of California is requested annually to*  
25 *provide appropriate information to the Department of Finance*  
26 *and the Legislative Analyst's Office to ensure that its budget is*  
27 *augmented to provide necessary funding in the University Grant*  
28 *Program to serve foster youth in this manner.*

29 *SEC. 8. The Department of Social Services shall annually*  
30 *notify in writing all foster youth aged 13 and older of the*  
31 *educational support available to them pursuant to this act.*