

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 9, 2007
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 21, 2007

SENATE BILL

No. 168

**Introduced by Senator Denham
(Coauthor: Senator Wiggins)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Berryhill, DeVore, Horton,
Jeffries, Maze, Mullin, and Smyth)

February 1, 2007

An act to amend Section 56351.7 of, and to add Section 56351.10 to, the Education Code, relating to public schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 168, as amended, Denham. Physical education for the blind and visually impaired.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to form an advisory task force, with prescribed membership approved by the State Board of Education, to develop standards for mastery of the braille code by pupils, and *required the task force* to report to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30, 2004.

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Existing law required the Superintendent ~~is required~~ to utilize that task force to develop standards for pupils to learn, and to achieve mastery of, the braille mathematics code as they progress through kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive. The task force ~~is~~ *was* required to report to the State Board by March 1, 2006, regarding those standards.

This bill would ~~require~~ *specify that the task force be composed of no more than 15 members and that participation by the members in the task force is voluntary.*

The bill would require the Superintendent to ~~form an~~ use the advisory task force, with prescribed membership approved by the State Board, to develop guidelines as a resource for teachers of functionally blind and visually impaired pupils in the area of physical education. This bill would require the task force, by June 30, 2009, to report on the guidelines it develops to the Superintendent, the Governor, and the Legislature by June 30, 2009 education committees of the Assembly and the Senate.

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. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature for
 2 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils to have full and
 3 equal access to the physical education that is part of the course of
 4 study requirements meant for all pupils.

5 (b) (1) It is also the intent of the Legislature for teachers of
 6 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils to have a resource
 7 in the form of guidelines that include teaching strategies and
 8 methods to ensure that the Physical Education Model Content
 9 Standards for California Public Schools adopted by the State Board
 10 of Education can be taught effectively. The guidelines also are
 11 intended to include best practices of accommodation, adaptation,
 12 and modification of physical education activities, so that
 13 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils can be included in
 14 all physical education that is part of the course of study
 15 requirements meant for all pupils.

16 (2) The guidelines are intended to be directed toward classroom
 17 teachers, general physical education teachers, and school
 18 administrators.

19 *SEC. 2. Section 56351.7 of the Education Code is amended to*
 20 *read:*

21 56351.7. (a) The Superintendent of ~~Public Instruction~~ shall
 22 form an advisory task force to develop standards for the mastery
 23 of the braille code as a child progresses through kindergarten to
 24 grade 12, inclusive.

25 (b) The task force shall include, but shall not be limited to,
 26 members approved by the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state board*
 27 representing all of the following:

- 1 (1) Parents of visually impaired pupils.
- 2 (2) Teachers of visually impaired pupils.
- 3 (3) Researchers in the field of visual impairment.
- 4 (4) Braille experts.
- 5 (5) Groups that advocate for *the* teaching of, and use of, braille.
- 6 (6) Groups that advocate for the visually impaired.

7 (c) *The task force shall be composed of no more than 15*
8 *members.*

9 (d) *Participation of task force members in the task force is*
10 *voluntary.*

11 ~~(e) The task force shall report to the Governor and to the~~
12 ~~education committees of the Assembly and the Senate by June 30,~~
13 ~~2004.~~

14 *SEC. 3. Section 56351.10 is added to the Education Code, to*
15 *read:*

16 *56351.10. (a) The Superintendent shall utilize the advisory*
17 *task force established pursuant to Section 56351.7 to develop*
18 *guidelines as a resource for teachers of functionally blind and*
19 *visually impaired pupils in the area of physical education.*

20 *(b) By June 30, 2009, the task force shall report on the*
21 *guidelines it develops pursuant to subdivision (a) to the*
22 *Superintendent, the Governor, and the education committees of*
23 *the Assembly and the Senate.*

24 ~~SEC. 2. Section 56351.10 is added to the Education Code, to~~
25 ~~read:~~

26 ~~56351.10. (a) The Superintendent shall form an advisory task~~
27 ~~force to develop guidelines as a resource for teachers of~~
28 ~~functionally blind and visually impaired pupils in the area of~~
29 ~~physical education.~~

30 ~~(b) The task force shall include, but not be limited to, members~~
31 ~~approved by the State Board representing all of the following:~~

- 32 ~~(1) Parents of visually impaired pupils.~~
- 33 ~~(2) Teachers of visually impaired pupils.~~
- 34 ~~(3) Researchers in the field of visual impairment.~~
- 35 ~~(4) Physical fitness education experts.~~
- 36 ~~(5) Groups that advocate for the blind on issues that include~~
37 ~~physical education.~~

1 ~~(e) The task force shall report to the Superintendent, the~~
2 ~~Governor, and to the education committees of the Assembly and~~
3 ~~the Senate by June 30, 2009.~~

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