

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 25, 2008

SENATE BILL

No. 1585

Introduced by Senator Padilla

February 22, 2008

An act to add and repeal Section 66723 of the Education Code, relating to California Community Colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1585, as amended, Padilla. California Community Colleges: transfer students.

Existing law establishes the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in this state. These segments include the California State University, the campuses of which are administered by the Trustees of the California State University, the University of California, which is administered by the Regents of the University of California, and the California Community Colleges, which is administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, requires the regents, the trustees, and the board of governors to have as a fundamental policy the maintenance of a healthy and expanded program to increase transfer students from community colleges.

This bill would make various legislative findings and declarations related to public higher education at the California Community Colleges. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to direct the California Community Colleges to redefine its priorities and goals, seek every possible way to make the most efficient use of the resources provided by the state, and to increase the number of students that transfer to 4-year institutions.

The bill would, commencing with the 2009–10 academic year, require each community college district to increase the number of students that transfer to a baccalaureate degree-granting institution by 5% from the previous academic year, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the California State University, and request the University of California, to assess strategic plans and initiatives that address its transfer function and coordinate and lend support to the community colleges to achieve stated transfer increase goals. These provisions would remain in effect only until the state adopts an accountability framework and production goals for the higher education system.

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: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: ~~no~~-yes.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) In order for California to keep up with economic demand
- 4 over the next 20 years, California will have to produce a steady
- 5 increase in the amount of college-educated workers.
- 6 (b) California faces a looming economic crisis as a result of
- 7 workforce shortages due to the impending retirement of a
- 8 generation of baby boomers, shifts in the state’s economy, and
- 9 demographic trends.
- 10 (c) The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that
- 11 43 percent of the United States labor force will be eligible to retire
- 12 between 2004 and 2012.
- 13 (d) The Public Policy Institute of California, in its report,
- 14 “California 2025: Taking on the Future,” found all of the following:
- 15 (1) Over the next 20 years, employment will grow by 30 to 40
- 16 percent.

1 (2) There will be a continued decline in the share of
2 manufacturing employment and a steady rise in the share employed
3 in services, particularly in the areas of health, business, educational
4 services, professional entertainment, and recreation.

5 (3) Demand for workers with a high school education or less
6 will fall and demand for those with associate, bachelor, and
7 advanced degrees will rise.

8 (4) ~~Latinos~~ *Students of color* will make up an increasing share
9 of the workforce and they are a group that now has lower levels
10 of education.

11 (e) Most Californians who access public postsecondary
12 education do so at California Community Colleges. The Institute
13 for Higher Education Leadership and Policy found that:

14 (1) Seventy-three percent of undergraduate students in California
15 attend a community college.

16 (2) Ten percent of the students who intend to get a two-year
17 degree actually achieve this goal.

18 (3) Twenty-five percent of the students who intend to transfer
19 to a four-year institution actually achieve this goal.

20 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to direct the California
21 Community Colleges to redefine its priorities and goals, seek every
22 possible way to make the most efficient use of the resources
23 provided by the state, and to increase the number of students that
24 transfer to four-year institutions.

25 SEC. 3. *Section 66723 is added to the Education Code, to read:*
26 *66723. (a) Commencing with the 2009–10 academic year,*
27 *each community college district shall increase the number of*
28 *students that transfer to a baccalaureate degree-granting*
29 *institution by 5 percent from the previous academic year.*

30 *(b) The Board of Governors of the California Community*
31 *Colleges shall assist districts in complying with subdivision (a)*
32 *and in cooperating with the California State University and the*
33 *University of California.*

34 *(c) The California State University shall, and the University of*
35 *California is requested to, do all of the following:*

36 *(1) Assess all strategic plans and initiatives within its*
37 *jurisdiction that address the transfer function and report to the*
38 *Legislature within three months of the assessment.*

1 (2) *Coordinate with and lend support to the California*
2 *Community Colleges to achieve the transfer increase goals*
3 *specified in subdivision (a)*

4 (d) *The California Community Colleges shall implement the*
5 *requirements of this section in a budget-neutral manner.*

6 SEC. 4. *If the Commission on State Mandates determines that*
7 *this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to*
8 *local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made*
9 *pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division*
10 *4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.*