

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 552

Introduced by Assembly Member Furutani

February 25, 2009

An act to add Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 86000) to Part 50 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 552, as introduced, Furutani. California Community Colleges: career technical and vocational education: financing.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, which are administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as a segment of public postsecondary education in the state. Existing law requires the board to appoint a chief executive officer, who is known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

This bill would establish the Commission on Adequate Funding for Career Technical and Vocational Education at the California Community Colleges, which would be required to conduct a study and make recommendations regarding financing alternatives for career technical education, vocational education, and high-cost laboratory programs at the California Community Colleges. The bill would require the commission to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on or before July 1, 2011. The bill would provide for the collection of private donations and the expenditure of those moneys, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for the support of the commission.

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. Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 85500) is
2 added to Part 50 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code,
3 to read:

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5 CHAPTER 9. FINANCING ALTERNATIVES FOR CAREER TECHNICAL
6 AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AT THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY
7 COLLEGES

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9 Article 1. General Provisions

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11 85500. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

12 (a) The California Community Colleges play a vital role in the
13 state’s economy.

14 (b) The existing financing structure for the California
15 Community Colleges creates a financial disincentive to develop
16 or continue existing career technical education, vocational
17 education, and high-cost laboratory programs.

18 (c) The need for career technical education, vocational
19 education, and high cost laboratory programs varies within
20 region-specific industries where there is a shortage in the
21 workforce.

22 (d) Establishing a commission composed of representatives
23 from the California Community Colleges, industry, and state
24 government will help to provide recommendations to the
25 Legislature on financing alternatives for career technical education,
26 vocational education, and high-cost laboratory programs at the
27 California Community Colleges.

28 85502. As used in this chapter, “commission” means the
29 Commission on Adequate Funding for Career Technical and
30 Vocational Education at the California Community Colleges
31 established pursuant to Section 85510.

1 Article 2. The Commission on Adequate Funding for Career
2 Technical and Vocational Education at the California Community
3 Colleges

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5 85510. (a) The Commission on Adequate Funding for Career
6 Technical and Vocational Education at the California Community
7 Colleges is hereby established.

8 (b) (1) The commission shall be composed of nine voting
9 members, who shall be appointed as follows:

10 (A) Three members appointed by the Governor, which shall
11 include a professor employed by the California Community
12 Colleges, an administrator employed by the California Community
13 Colleges, and a representative of a local workforce investment
14 board.

15 (B) Three members appointed by the Senate Committee on
16 Rules, which shall include a professor employed by the California
17 Community Colleges, an administrator employed by the California
18 Community Colleges, and a representative of a local workforce
19 investment board.

20 (C) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly,
21 which shall include a professor employed by the California
22 Community Colleges, an administrator employed by the California
23 Community Colleges, and a representative of a local workforce
24 investment board.

25 (2) The commission shall also include the following ex officio,
26 nonvoting members:

27 (A) The Chair of the Senate Committee on Education or a
28 member of that committee appointed by the Senate Committee on
29 Rules.

30 (B) The Chair of the Assembly Committee on Higher Education
31 or a member of that committee appointed by the Speaker of the
32 Assembly.

33 (C) A representative of the Legislative Analyst's Office.

34 (D) A representative of the Department of Finance.

35 (E) A representative of the California Workforce Investment
36 Board.

37 (F) A representative of the Office of the Chancellor of the
38 California Community Colleges.

39 (c) The commission shall elect a chair and a vice chair from
40 among the members specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

1 The term of office for the chair and vice chair shall be for the
2 duration of the commission.

3 (d) The term of office for all members shall be for the duration
4 of the commission. A vacancy in the commission shall not affect
5 its powers and shall be filled in the same manner in which the
6 original appointment was made.

7 (e) Five voting members of the commission shall constitute a
8 quorum at any meeting for transacting the business of the
9 commission, but a lesser number may conduct hearings.

10 85513. Members of the commission shall serve without
11 compensation. However, all members of the commission may be
12 reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses
13 incurred in the performance of their duties, to the extent that funds
14 are available for these purposes, in accordance with Section 85515.

15 85515. State funds shall not be available to the commission
16 pursuant to this chapter, except that private donations collected
17 pursuant to Section 85530 may be expended, upon appropriation
18 by the Legislature, to reimburse members for expenses and for
19 any other purpose of this chapter.

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21 Article 3. Powers and Duties of the Commission

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23 85520. (a) The commission shall gather facts and conduct a
24 study regarding financing alternatives for career technical
25 education, vocational education, and high-cost laboratory programs
26 at the California Community Colleges, for the purpose of making
27 recommendations to the Governor and Legislature pursuant to
28 subdivision (b).

29 (b) The commission shall make recommendations to the
30 Governor and the Legislature, including, but not limited to, its
31 findings regarding financing alternatives for career technical
32 education, vocational education, and high-cost laboratory programs
33 at the California Community Colleges, and any other
34 recommendations that the commission deems necessary to
35 discharge its duties.

36 (c) On or before July 1, 2011, the commission shall submit to
37 the Governor and the Legislature a written report of its findings
38 and recommendations pursuant to subdivision (b).

39 85523. The commission shall hold public meetings and hearings
40 in any city that the commission deems necessary and proper.

1 85525. The commission may authorize any subcommittee or
2 member of the commission to hold hearings and may request the
3 attendance and testimony of any witnesses and the production of
4 records, correspondence, and documents that the commission, any
5 subcommittee of the commission, or any member of the
6 commission deems necessary in order to implement this chapter.

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Article 4. Financial Provisions

10 85530. (a) Subject to Sections 11005 and 11005.1 of the
11 Government Code, the commission may solicit, and the Director
12 of Finance may accept on behalf of the commission, gifts,
13 donations, and other financial support from private entities, for
14 the purposes of this chapter.

15 (b) Private entities may deposit gifts, donations, and other
16 financial support with the state for the purposes of this chapter.

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