

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 1, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 552**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Furutani**

February 25, 2009

---

---

An act to add Chapter 9 (commencing with Section ~~86000~~ 85500) to Part 50 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges, *and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 552, as amended, 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~~ *within 18 months after the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges certifies that adequate private funds have been obtained for the commission to complete its duties.* The bill would provide for the

collection of private ~~donations~~ *funds* and the expenditure of those moneys, ~~upon appropriation by the Legislature,~~ for the support of the commission, *making a continuous appropriation of those funds.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. 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:

4  
5 CHAPTER 9. FINANCING ALTERNATIVES FOR CAREER TECHNICAL  
6 AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AT THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY  
7 COLLEGES

8  
9 Article 1. General Provisions

10  
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~~ *high-cost* laboratory programs varies  
20 within 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

4  
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. *The commission shall not*  
20 *commence its duties pursuant to Section 85520 until the Board of*  
21 *Governors of the California Community Colleges certifies that*  
22 *adequate funds have been obtained pursuant to Section 85530 for*  
23 *the commission to complete its duties pursuant to Section 85520.*  
24

### 25 Article 3. Powers and Duties of the Commission

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

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

1 (c) ~~On or before July 1, 2011~~ *Within 18 months after the Board*  
2 *of Governors of the California Community Colleges makes the*  
3 *certification described in Section 85515, the commission shall*  
4 submit to the Governor and the Legislature a written report of its  
5 findings and recommendations pursuant to subdivision (b).

6 85523. The commission shall hold public meetings and hearings  
7 in any city that the commission deems necessary and proper.

8 85525. The commission may authorize any subcommittee or  
9 member of the commission to hold hearings and may request the  
10 attendance and testimony of any witnesses and the production of  
11 records, correspondence, and documents that the commission, any  
12 subcommittee of the commission, or any member of the  
13 commission deems necessary in order to implement this chapter.

14  
15 Article 4. Financial Provisions

16  
17 85530. (a) Subject to Sections 11005 and 11005.1 of the  
18 Government Code, ~~the commission~~ *Board of Governors of the*  
19 *California Community Colleges* may solicit, and the Director of  
20 Finance may accept on behalf of the commission, gifts, donations,  
21 and other financial support from private entities, for the purposes  
22 of this chapter. *The Director of Finance, upon the Board of*  
23 *Governors of the California Community Colleges making the*  
24 *certification described in Section 85515, shall transfer funds*  
25 *received pursuant to this section to the commission, and these*  
26 *funds are continuously appropriated to the commission for*  
27 *expenditure for purposes of this chapter.*

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