

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1008

Introduced by Assembly Member Block

February 27, 2009

An act relating to community colleges. An act to add Section 78217 to the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1008, as amended, Block. Community colleges: ~~matriculation. student assessment.~~

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law, known as the Seymour-Campbell Matriculation Act of 1986, defines "matriculation" as a process that brings a college and a student who enrolls for credit into an agreement for the purpose of realizing the student's educational objectives. The act specifies the matriculation services that community colleges are required to provide, including the processing of the application for admission, orientation and preorientation services, assessment and counseling upon enrollment, and postenrollment evaluation of a student's progress.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require that the California Community Colleges evaluate its basic skills offerings and assess the extent to which these courses are meeting the needs of students in progressing toward successful completion of their educational objectives.

Existing law requires the board to implement matriculation services in as many community colleges as funds appropriated for that purpose allow. Among the matriculation services to be provided is the assessment and counseling of students upon enrollment. Under existing law, assessment includes the administration of assessment tests to determine competency in certain skill areas, identification of aptitudes, and evaluation of study and learning skills, among other things.

Existing law prohibits a district or college from using an assessment instrument without authorization of the board and requires the board to establish an advisory committee to review and make recommendations concerning all assessment instruments used by the districts and colleges. Existing law provides that these requirements are only operative if funds are specifically appropriated for these purposes.

This bill would require the board to convene a working group including representatives of the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, and the California Community Colleges Consultation Council to make findings and recommendations regarding assessments that can be utilized to test basic skills of students entering community college. The bill would require the working group to present its findings to the Legislature and Governor on or before July 1, 2010.

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

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

- 1 SECTION. 1. Section 78217 is added to the Education Code,
- 2 to read:
- 3 78217. (a) The Board of Governors of the California
- 4 Community Colleges shall convene a working group that includes,
- 5 but is not limited to, representatives of the Legislative Analyst's
- 6 Office, the California Community Colleges Consultation Council,
- 7 and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, to
- 8 make findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the
- 9 Governor regarding statewide assessments that can be utilized to
- 10 test the basic skills of students as they enter the community college
- 11 system.
- 12 (b) The working group shall present its findings and
- 13 recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on or before
- 14 July 1, 2010.

1 ~~SECTION 1.—It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
2 ~~legislation to amend Section 78212 of the Education Code to~~
3 ~~require the California Community Colleges to evaluate its basic~~
4 ~~skills offerings and assess the extent to which these courses are~~
5 ~~meeting the needs of students in progressing toward successful~~
6 ~~completion of their educational objectives.~~

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