

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 17, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 15, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2211

Introduced by Assembly Member Fuentes

February 18, 2010

An act to amend Section 51760 of, and to add ~~Section 51760.1~~ *Sections 51760.1 and 51760.2* to, the Education Code, relating to work-based learning, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2211, as amended, Fuentes. Work-based learning.

Existing law authorizes school districts that maintain high schools to establish work experience programs for the purpose of providing pupils with instruction in skills, attitudes, and understandings necessary for success in employment.

This bill would state the findings of the Legislature regarding work-based learning, as defined. This bill would authorize school districts that maintain high schools to establish work-based learning programs, and to purchase liability insurance for pupils enrolled in programs of study involving work-based learning, off school grounds. The bill would authorize partnership academies, regional occupational programs, and ~~other educational programs~~ *local educational agencies* to deliver work-based learning opportunities for pupils that may include work experience education, community classrooms, cooperative career technical education programs, and job shadowing experience, as

~~specified. The bill would require the Superintendent, in conjunction with specified education stakeholders, to develop principles and guidelines for the establishment of work-based learning programs. The bill would encourage school districts to submit specified information relating to work-based learning to the department, and would encourage the State Department of Education to post this information on its Internet Web site. The bill would authorize regional and local business organizations, in conjunction with school districts and community colleges, and any other representatives deemed appropriate, to develop principles and guidelines for the establishment of work-based learning programs.~~

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~-no.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) Public secondary education prepares pupils for success after
- 4 high school, including further education and training without
- 5 remediation, productive employment with opportunities for
- 6 advancement, and civic participation.
- 7 (b) Well-designed education programs intentionally combine
- 8 rigorous college preparatory education with demanding career
- 9 technical education, both of which are supported by high-quality
- 10 work-based learning and necessary support services that promote
- 11 success.
- 12 (c) Work-based learning is an essential component of any
- 13 comprehensive educational program of study. It brings meaning
- 14 and relevance to the educational program.
- 15 (d) Work-based learning offers opportunities to learn through
- 16 real-world experience. Pupils gain access to job shadowing,
- 17 mentorships, intensive internships, real or virtual apprenticeships,
- 18 and school-based enterprises. These experiences complement
- 19 classroom instruction and help sharpen the desire of pupils to
- 20 increase knowledge and skills that are relevant to their
- 21 postsecondary and career interests.

1 (e) Work-based learning is currently provided to pupils through
2 existing programs, including, but not limited to, work experience,
3 cooperative vocational education, regional occupational programs,
4 and community classrooms.

5 (f) High-quality work-based learning includes systematic
6 attention to the development of 21st century skills, such as
7 communication, problem solving, teamwork, project planning, and
8 critical thinking.

9 (g) Furthermore, work-based learning allows pupils to work
10 side by side with adult professionals who help instill professional
11 behavior, real-world expectations, a strong work ethic, the need
12 for ongoing learning, and a desire to achieve.

13 (h) High-quality work-based learning experiences share the
14 following characteristics:

15 (1) Prioritization of learning over work production.

16 (2) Exposure to a wide range of career areas and worksites in
17 order to help youth make informed choices about education,
18 training options, and career pursuits.

19 (3) Thoughtful placement of pupils into opportunities that are
20 evaluated for their safety, qualified supervision, and learning
21 opportunities.

22 (4) Appropriate sequencing of experiences based upon the
23 pupil's age and maturity, ranging from site visits and tours, job
24 shadowing, unpaid and paid internships, and paid work experience.

25 (5) Explicit aim to supplement, or systematically reinforce,
26 classroom instruction in technical courses, academic courses, or
27 both.

28 (6) A trained workplace mentor who works in collaboration
29 with a classroom teacher to structure the learning at the worksite.

30 (7) Built-in regular assessment and feedback.

31 (8) Involvement of youth in choosing and structuring the
32 experience.

33 (9) Clear and measurable learning outcomes.

34 (i) Work-based learning may take many forms, including, but
35 not limited to, job shadowing, internships, work experience,
36 community classrooms, real or virtual apprenticeships, and
37 school-based enterprises.

38 SEC. 2. Section 51760 of the Education Code is amended to
39 read:

1 51760. The governing board of a district maintaining a high
 2 school may do all of the following:

3 (a) Provide for the instruction of pupils in the skills, attitudes,
 4 and understanding necessary to succeed in employment by means
 5 of courses of work-based learning or work experience education
 6 as provided in this article.

7 (b) Provide for guidance and supervision procedures designed
 8 to ensure maximum educational benefit to pupils from placement
 9 in suitable work-based learning or work experience education
 10 courses.

11 (c) Provide for arranging, approving, coordinating, and awarding
 12 credit for work-based learning or work experience education
 13 courses, and for those purposes employ instructors, coordinators,
 14 and other necessary personnel.

15 (d) Provide for the district to purchase liability insurance for
 16 pupils enrolled in programs of study involving work experience,
 17 which may include work-based learning, or vocational education
 18 at locations off school grounds approved by the governing board,
 19 or require pupils to purchase insurance and to pass on all or a
 20 portion of the costs, at the discretion of the governing board, to
 21 the district.

22 SEC. 3. Section 51760.1 is added to the Education Code, to
 23 read:

24 51760.1. (a) ~~Work-based~~ *Consistent with the most recent state*
 25 *plan on career technical education, work-based learning*
 26 *opportunities for pupils may be delivered by partnership academies*
 27 *conducted pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 54690)*
 28 *of Chapter 9 of Part 29, regional occupational programs, as defined*
 29 *in Section 52303, and other educational programs, and may include,*
 30 ~~*but are not programs established pursuant to Section 88532, and*~~
 31 *local educational agencies, and may include, but are not limited*
 32 *to, work experience education, as defined in Section 51764,*
 33 *community classrooms, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section*
 34 *52372.1, cooperative career technical education programs, as*
 35 *defined in subdivision (b) of Section 52372.1, and job shadowing*
 36 *experience, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 51769.*

37 (b) *School districts and community colleges that receive funding*
 38 *to provide career technical education programs pursuant to Section*
 39 *52055.770 may include a work-based learning component in these*
 40 *programs.*

1 ~~(b)~~

2 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, school districts opting to
3 offer work-based learning opportunities to pupils *enrolled in the*
4 *district* shall ensure that, when applicable, pupils are afforded the
5 same statutory and regulatory safeguards as pupils in work
6 experience programs.

7 ~~(e)~~

8 (d) For purposes of this section, “work-based learning” means
9 an educational approach or instructional methodology that uses
10 the workplace or real work to provide pupils with the knowledge
11 and skills that will help them connect school experiences to real-life
12 work activities and future career opportunities. When feasible,
13 work-based learning should be an integral part of a more
14 ~~comprehensive pathway program that integrates challenging~~
15 *comprehensive program that integrates* academic courses and
16 ~~demanding~~ career technical education.

17 ~~(d)~~

18 (e) High-quality work-based learning may include, but is not
19 limited to, any of the following:

20 (1) Emphasis on learning in the workplace.

21 (2) Exposure to a wide range of career areas and worksites in
22 order to help youth make informed choices about education,
23 training options, and career pursuits.

24 (3) Thoughtful placement of pupils into opportunities that are
25 evaluated for their safety, qualified supervision, and learning
26 opportunities.

27 (4) Appropriate sequencing of experiences based upon the
28 pupil’s age and maturity, ranging from site visits and tours, job
29 shadowing, unpaid and paid internships, and paid work experience.

30 (5) Explicit aim to supplement, or systematically reinforce,
31 classroom instruction in technical courses, academic courses, or
32 both.

33 (6) Systematic attention to the development of 21st century
34 skills, such as communication, problem solving, teamwork, project
35 planning, and critical thinking.

36 (7) A trained mentor who structures the learning at the worksite.

37 (8) Coordination between the classroom teacher and the
38 workplace mentor or supervisor.

39 (9) Built-in regular assessment and feedback.

1 (10) Involvement of youth in choosing and structuring the
2 experience.

3 (11) Clear and measurable learning outcomes.

4 ~~(e) The Superintendent, in conjunction with teachers, chamber
5 organizations, industry representatives, research centers, parents,
6 school administrators, representatives of regional occupational
7 centers and programs, and others deemed appropriate by the
8 Superintendent, shall develop principles and guidelines for the
9 establishment of work-based learning programs. In developing
10 these principles and guidelines for work-based learning, the
11 Superintendent shall consider existing guidelines or regulations
12 relative to the programs described in subdivision (a) and the most
13 current academic and career technical education standards adopted
14 by the state board. The guidelines shall include specific guidance
15 to schools and school districts on ensuring that the objective of a
16 pupil's workplace learning opportunity is linked directly to
17 academic learning objectives. For purposes of completing these
18 principles and guidelines the Superintendent may use existing
19 federal and state funds. If federal or state funds are not available
20 or sufficient, the Superintendent may apply for and accept grants
21 and receive donations, or other financial support from public or
22 private sources for purposes of this subdivision.~~

23 ~~(f) In order to maximize existing and proposed public
24 transportation routes to ensure that high school pupils have greater
25 access to work-based learning sites, school districts offering
26 work-based learning are encouraged to provide information to
27 local transportation agencies about existing schools offering
28 work-based learning opportunities and participating industry
29 worksites.~~

30 ~~(g)~~

31 ~~(f) School districts are encouraged to work with local workforce
32 investment board youth councils and workforce investment boards
33 to maximize the use of available resources for youth employment
34 opportunities by coordinating work-based learning opportunities
35 and facilitating work-based learning regional planning.~~

36 ~~(h) School districts offering work-based learning are encouraged
37 to submit to the department work-based learning best practices
38 and specific examples of work-based learning offered by the
39 district. The department is encouraged to post this information on~~

1 its Internet Web site for the purpose of informing school districts
2 about work-based learning.

3 *SEC. 4. Section 51760.2 is added to the Education Code, to*
4 *read:*

5 *51760.2. Regional and local business organizations, in*
6 *conjunction with school districts and community colleges, and any*
7 *other representatives deemed appropriate, including, but not*
8 *limited to, industry representatives, research centers, and parents,*
9 *may develop principles and guidelines for the establishment of*
10 *work-based learning programs. If these organizations develop*
11 *principles and guidelines pursuant to this section, both of the*
12 *following shall occur:*

13 *(a) The organizations shall consider existing guidelines or*
14 *regulations relative to the programs described in subdivision (a)*
15 *of Section 51760.1, the state's most recent career technical*
16 *education plan, and the most current academic and career*
17 *technical education standards adopted by the state board.*

18 *(b) The guidelines shall include specific guidance to school*
19 *districts and community colleges on ensuring that a pupil's*
20 *workplace learning opportunities are linked directly to academic*
21 *learning objectives and provide the necessary skills for the pupil*
22 *to use in future employment or postsecondary education*
23 *opportunities.*

24 ~~SEC. 4.~~

25 *SEC. 5. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the*
26 *immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within*
27 *the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into*
28 *immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:*

29 *Because of current economic conditions and lack of education*
30 *funding, public and private partnerships are necessary for pupils*
31 *to learn relevant skills inside and outside the classroom and because*
32 *work-based learning has proven to engage pupils very effectively*
33 *in preparation for higher education and the workplace, it is*
34 *necessary that this act take effect immediately.*