

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2382

Introduced by Assembly Member Blumenfield

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Buchanan, Galgiani, Saldana,
and Audra Strickland)*

(Coauthors: Senators Strickland and Wyland)

February 19, 2010

An act to add Article 4.7 (commencing with Section 66042) to Chapter 2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2382, as amended, Blumenfield. California State University: Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees.

Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth, among other things, the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education, and their respective institutions of higher education. Provisions of the act do not apply to the University of California unless the regents of the university act, by resolution, to make them applicable.

Among other things, the act provides that the University of California has exclusive jurisdiction in public higher education to award the doctoral degree in all fields of learning, except that it may agree with the California State University to award joint doctoral degrees in selected fields. With respect to doctoral degrees, the act limits the California State University to awarding these degrees jointly with the University of California, as described above, or jointly with independent institutions

of higher education, provided that the proposed doctoral program is approved by the California Postsecondary Education Commission.

This bill would instead authorize the California State University to award the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. This bill would require the degree to be distinguished from doctoral degree programs at the University of California.

The bill would require that the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree offered by the California State University be focused on preparing physical therapists to provide health care services and shall be consistent with meeting requirements of the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. The bill would require that each student in the programs authorized by the bill be charged fees no higher than the rate charged for students in state-supported programs in physical therapy at the University of California.

The bill would require the California State University, the Department of Finance, and the Legislative Analyst’s Office to jointly conduct a statewide evaluation of the new programs implemented under the bill. The bill would specify topics to be included in this evaluation, and would require that the evaluation be submitted to the Legislature and the Governor on or before January 1, 2015.

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. The Legislature finds and declares both of the
2 following:

3 (a) Since its adoption in 1960, the Master Plan for Higher
4 Education has served the state well, allowing California to create
5 the largest and most distinguished higher education system in the
6 nation.

7 (b) Because of the need to prepare and educate increased
8 numbers of physical therapists, it is the intent of the Legislature
9 to grant the California State University authority to offer the
10 Doctor of Physical Therapy degree as an exception to the Master
11 Plan for Higher Education.

12 SECTION 1.

13 SEC. 2. Article 4.7 (commencing with Section 66042) is added
14 to Chapter 2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education
15 Code, to read:

1 Article 4.7. Doctoral Programs in Physical Therapy

2
3 66042. ~~(a) Notwithstanding Section 66010.4~~*Notwithstanding*
4 *Section 66010.4, in order to meet specific physical therapy*
5 *education needs in California, the California State University may*
6 *award the Doctor of Physical Therapy (P.T.D.) (D.P.T.) degree.*
7 *The authority to award degrees granted by this article is limited*
8 *to the discipline of physical therapy. The Doctor of Physical*
9 *Therapy degree offered by the California State University shall be*
10 *distinguished from doctoral degree programs at the University of*
11 *California.*

12 ~~(b) Nothing in this article shall be construed to limit or preclude~~
13 ~~the California Postsecondary Education Commission from~~
14 ~~exercising its authority under Chapter 11 (commencing with~~
15 ~~Section 66900) to review, evaluate, and make recommendations~~
16 ~~relating to any and all programs established under this article.~~

17 66042.1. *In implementing Section 66042, the California State*
18 *University shall comply with all of the following requirements:*

19 (a) *Funding on a per full-time equivalent student (FTES) basis*
20 *for each new student in these degree programs shall be from within*
21 *the California State University's enrollment growth levels as*
22 *agreed to in the annual Budget Act. Enrollments in these programs*
23 *shall not alter the California State University's ratio of graduate*
24 *instruction to total enrollment, and shall not diminish enrollment*
25 *growth in university undergraduate programs. Funding provided*
26 *from the state for each FTES shall be at the agreed-upon marginal*
27 *cost calculation that the California State University receives.*

28 (b) *The Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) degree offered by*
29 *the California State University shall be focused on preparing*
30 *physical therapists to provide health care services, and shall be*
31 *consistent with meeting the requirements of the Commission on*
32 *Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).*

33 (c) *Nothing in this article shall be construed to limit or preclude*
34 *the California Postsecondary Education Commission from*
35 *exercising its authority under Chapter 11 (commencing with*
36 *Section 66900) to review, evaluate, and make recommendations*
37 *relating to any and all programs established under this article.*

38 (d) *Each student in the programs authorized by this article shall*
39 *be charged fees no higher than the rate charged for students in*
40 *state-supported doctoral degree programs in physical therapy at*

1 *the University of California, including joint D.P.T. programs of*
2 *the California State University and the University of California.*

3 *(e) The California State University shall provide any startup*
4 *funding needed for the programs authorized by this article from*
5 *within existing budgets for academic programs support, without*
6 *diminishing the quality of program support offered to California*
7 *State University undergraduate programs. Funding of these*
8 *programs shall not result in reduced undergraduate enrollments*
9 *at the California State University.*

10 66042.3. *The California State University, the Department of*
11 *Finance, and the Legislative Analyst’s Office shall jointly conduct*
12 *a statewide evaluation of the new programs implemented under*
13 *this article. The results of the evaluation shall be reported, in*
14 *writing, to the Legislature and the Governor on or before January*
15 *1, 2015. The evaluation required by this section shall consider all*
16 *of the following:*

17 *(a) The number of new doctoral programs in physical therapy*
18 *implemented, including information identifying the number of new*
19 *programs, applicants, admissions, enrollments, and degree*
20 *recipients.*

21 *(b) The extent to which the programs established under this*
22 *article are fulfilling identified needs for physical therapists,*
23 *including statewide supply and demand data that considers*
24 *capacity at the University of California and in California’s*
25 *independent colleges and universities.*

26 *(c) Information on the place of employment of students and the*
27 *subsequent job placement of graduates.*

28 *(d) Program costs and the fund sources that were used to finance*
29 *these programs, including a calculation of cost per degree*
30 *awarded.*

31 *(e) The costs of the programs to students, the amount of financial*
32 *aid offered, and student debt levels of graduates of the programs.*

33 *(f) The extent to which the programs established under this*
34 *article are in compliance with the requirements of this article.*