

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 21, 2010  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2010  
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 17, 2010

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 956**

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**Introduced by Senator Romero  
(Coauthors: Senators Alquist and Oropeza)**

February 5, 2010

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An act to add Section 14025 to the Unemployment Insurance Code, relating to workforce development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 956, as amended, Romero. Workforce development: California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program.

The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 makes funding available to states that offer training and workforce development services through the state and local workforce investment boards. The California Workforce Investment Board, which is the entity responsible for assisting the Governor in the development, oversight, and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system, is required to recommend strategies to the Governor for strategic training investments of certain discretionary funding made available under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

This bill would require the California Workforce Investment Board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to allocate \$5,000,000 of the Workforce Investment Act state reserve, as provided for by federal law, to local workforce investment boards to allocate to school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools to provide intensive examination preparation courses for the purpose of retraining laid off

and out-of-field teachers to meet subject matter competency requirements, in accordance with specified procedures.

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. Section 14025 is added to the Unemployment  
2 Insurance Code, to read:

3 14025. (a) In accordance with the policies and purposes of the  
4 federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 2801  
5 et seq.), and its implementing regulations, and to the extent that  
6 federal funding is made available to the state under the act, the  
7 board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, shall allocate five  
8 million dollars (\$5,000,000) of the Workforce Investment Act state  
9 reserve provided pursuant to Section 2853 of Title 29 of the United  
10 States Code to local workforce investment boards to allocate to  
11 school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools to  
12 provide intensive examination preparation courses pursuant to  
13 Section 44401 of the Education Code for the purpose of retraining  
14 laid off and out-of-field teachers to meet subject matter competency  
15 requirements for teaching science, mathematics, or industrial and  
16 technology education.

17 (b) (1) Preferences for examination preparation courses, as  
18 prescribed in subdivision (a), shall be based on the following  
19 priority system:

20 (A) First priority shall be for retraining laid off teachers in order  
21 to prepare them for obtaining subject matter credentials in science  
22 or mathematics.

23 (B) Second priority shall be for retraining teachers who have  
24 been displaced and are currently working out of their  
25 field-of-expertise or competency area.

26 (2) School districts, county offices of education, and charter  
27 schools that receive funding from a local workforce investment  
28 board pursuant to this section shall reimburse each teacher who  
29 successfully passes ~~his or her examination for the cost of that~~  
30 ~~examination.~~ *all relevant sections of a subject matter examination*  
31 *and attains an authorization to teach science, mathematics, or*  
32 *industrial and technology education for the cost of that examination*

1 *and any fees charged by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing*  
2 *to add the authorization.*

3 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, any Workforce Investment  
4 Act funds allocated or expended by local workforce investment  
5 boards pursuant to this section shall be expended for the purposes  
6 of statewide employment and training activities, and shall not be  
7 allocated or expended in any manner inconsistent with the  
8 Workforce Investment Act.

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