

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 6, 2012  
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2012  
AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 5, 2011  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2011  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2011  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 18**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Brownley**  
*(Coauthors: Senators Alquist and Lowenthal)*

December 6, 2010

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An act to add and repeal Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 33625) of Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to education finance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 18, as amended, Brownley. Education finance: California *Task Force on School Finance Commission*.

Existing law establishes the public school system in this state, and, among other things, provides for the establishment of school districts throughout the state and for their provision of instruction at the public elementary and secondary schools they operate and maintain. Existing law establishes a public school funding system that includes, among other elements, the provision of funding to local educational agencies through state apportionments, the proceeds of property taxes collected at the local level, and other sources.

This bill would establish a ~~13-member~~ *19-member* California *Task Force on School Finance* ~~Commission~~ as of January 1, 2013, to review and analyze alternative formulas for allocating funds to public schools in California for the purpose of identifying and recommending a formula or formulas that best meet the needs of California’s public school system and public school pupils. The bill would specify criteria to be used by the ~~commission~~ *task force* to evaluate funding formulas. The bill would provide that ~~6~~ 8 of the members of the ~~commission~~ *task force* would be appointed by the Governor, ~~3~~ 5 appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, ~~3~~ 5 appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and that the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee would be a member of, and serve as chair of, the ~~commission~~ *task force*. The bill would require the ~~commission~~ *task force* to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature on or before ~~February~~ *April* 1, 2013.

This bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2013, and would repeal them as of January 1, 2014.

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. Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 33625) is  
 2 added to Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code,  
 3 to read:

4  
 5 CHAPTER 5. CALIFORNIA *TASK FORCE ON SCHOOL FINANCE*  
 6 ~~COMMISSION~~  
 7

8 33625. (a) The California *Task Force on School Finance*  
 9 ~~Commission~~ is hereby established as of January 1, 2013. The  
 10 ~~commission~~ *task force* shall review and analyze alternative  
 11 formulas for allocating funds to public schools in California for  
 12 the purpose of identifying and recommending a formula or  
 13 formulas that best meet the needs of California’s public school  
 14 system and public school pupils. The criteria used to evaluate  
 15 different funding formulas shall include, but not necessarily be  
 16 limited to, all of the following:

17 (1) The degree to which the formula results in a level of funding  
 18 for each local educational agency that matches that local

1 educational agency's needs as determined by pupil demographics,  
2 grade level enrollment, regional cost differences, and other cost  
3 factors identified by the ~~commission~~ *task force*.

4 (2) The degree to which the formula facilitates the attainment  
5 of educational policy objectives.

6 (3) The degree to which the formula can be modified to reflect  
7 changing conditions and policy objectives.

8 (4) The degree to which the formula can be easily administered  
9 and understood by policymakers and the public.

10 (b) The ~~commission~~ *task force* shall consist of ~~13~~ 19 members,  
11 who shall be representative of the diversity of the state population,  
12 ~~12~~ 18 of whom shall be appointed as follows:

13 (1) ~~Six~~ Eight members shall be appointed by the Governor.

14 (2) ~~Three~~ Five members shall be appointed by the Speaker of  
15 the Assembly.

16 (3) ~~Three~~ Five members shall be appointed by the Senate  
17 Committee on Rules.

18 (c) The Superintendent or his or her designee shall be a member  
19 of and serve as chair of the ~~commission~~ *task force*.

20 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature that the ~~commission~~ *task*  
21 *force* include representation from urban, suburban, and rural school  
22 districts; currently employed teachers, administrators, and classified  
23 school employees; school board members; parents; historically  
24 underserved pupil populations; and members of the research  
25 community with expertise in school finance.

26 (e) The ~~commission~~ *task force* shall do all of the following:

27 (1) Identify key issues related to the fair, efficient, and equitable  
28 distribution of resources among and within local educational  
29 agencies.

30 (2) Identify means by which a funding formula can maximize  
31 local decisionmaking authority while ensuring that statewide policy  
32 objectives are met.

33 (3) Solicit comments and suggestions from professional  
34 educators and administrators, parents, school finance experts, and  
35 other interested parties.

36 (4) Develop alternative formulas for distributing resources to  
37 local educational agencies. The formulas to be considered shall  
38 include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:

39 (A) Modifications to the current system of general purpose  
40 funding plus categorical program funding.

1 (B) General purpose funding plus categorical program block  
2 grants.

3 (C) Weighted pupil formula.

4 (5) Simulate the distribution of funds under alternative formulas.

5 (6) Identify, for each formula simulated, a target level of funding  
6 for each local educational agency.

7 (7) Make recommendations regarding a methodology for  
8 transitioning to a new funding formula.

9 (f) ~~The commission~~ *task force* shall report its findings and  
10 recommendations to the Legislature on or before ~~February~~ *April*  
11 1, 2013, in accordance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

12 (g) For purposes of this section:

13 (1) “Local educational agency” means school districts, county  
14 offices of education, and charter schools.

15 (2) “Target level of funding” means the level of funding that is  
16 not less than the amount yielded when a formula is applied to the  
17 total level of funding, exclusive of federal and lottery funds,  
18 allocated to local educational agencies for the 2012–13 fiscal year,  
19 plus the school district share of the outstanding maintenance factor  
20 computed pursuant to Section 8 of Article XVI of the California  
21 Constitution as of July 1, 2012.

22 (h) This chapter shall become inoperative on July 1, 2013, and,  
23 as of January 1, 2014, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,  
24 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2014, deletes or  
25 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.