

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 2011
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2011
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 790

Introduced by Assembly Members Furutani and Carter

February 17, 2011

~~An act to add Sections 52372.7 and 52372.8 to the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction. An act to amend Section 58509 of, and to add and repeal Section 52372.7 of, the Education Code, relating to career technical education.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 790, as amended, Furutani. ~~Pupil instruction~~ *Career technical education: Multiple Pathway Pilot Program.*

(1) Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop, in conjunction with specified persons and entities, a report that explores the feasibility of expanding and establishing career multiple pathway programs, as defined, in California.

This bill, *commencing with the 2012–13 school year*, would establish the Multiple Pathway Pilot Program to be administered by the State Department of Education according to specified requirements for the purpose of implementing districtwide multiple pathway ~~learning approaches~~ *programs, as defined*, in all participating school districts. The bill would authorize a school district that maintains grades 9 to 12, inclusive, to apply to the Superintendent to operate a pilot program. The bill would require the department to review these applications and would authorize the Superintendent to initially approve up to 20 applications. The bill would require this application review and approval

to be conducted on a competitive basis with consideration given to specified factors. The bill would require the Superintendent to transmit a report to the Legislature and the Governor by ~~January 18, 2018~~ *September 30, 2016*, that makes specified evaluations and recommendations.

The bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2017, and would repeal them as of January 1, 2018.

~~(2) Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district or a county board of education, on a districtwide or countywide basis or on behalf of one or more of its schools or programs, after a public hearing on the matter, to request the State Board of Education to waive all or part of any statute in the Education Code or any regulation adopted by the state board that implements a provision of that code, except as specified.~~

(2) Existing law establishes alternative schools, as defined, and authorizes the Superintendent, upon application of a school district, to waive any provisions of the Education Code for the operation of alternative schools, other than those specified.

This bill would *additionally* authorize the Superintendent, upon application of a school district and for the operation of a multiple pathway *pilot* program, to waive any provisions of the Education Code, other than those specified.

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 all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) California is at a critical crossroads in terms of the challenges
- 4 it faces in reforming its public high school system.
- 5 (b) California is facing an unprecedented state funding gap and
- 6 will face continued fiscal problems in the future if it does not
- 7 produce an educated and career ready workforce.
- 8 (c) California must lead efforts to improve graduation rates,
- 9 close achievement and opportunity gaps, and prepare all pupils
- 10 for success in pursuing both living-wage careers and a variety of
- 11 postsecondary learning experiences.
- 12 (d) California must embrace new, innovative approaches to
- 13 educational transformation that are likely to lead to high successful

1 outcomes for our pupils, families, communities, and local and state
2 economies.

3 (e) The multiple pathway approach is one of the most promising
4 high school transformational strategies and can be expanded to
5 play a pivotal role in enabling all of our pupils to be well prepared
6 for life and workforce demands in a 21st century global economy
7 and society.

8 SEC. 2. Section 52372.7 is added to the Education Code, to
9 read:

10 52372.7. (a) ~~The Commencing with the 2012–13 school year,~~
11 ~~the Multiple Pathway Pilot Program is hereby established for the~~
12 ~~purpose of implementing districtwide multiple pathway-learning~~
13 ~~approaches programs, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section~~
14 ~~52372.5, in all participating school districts.~~

15 (b) The pilot program shall be administered by the department
16 and shall contain all of the following requirements:

17 (1) Each participating school district shall incorporate
18 small-sized schools and smaller groupings of pupils within new
19 and existing high schools.

20 (2) Rigorous multiple pathway programs of study shall be
21 implemented that guide pupils through course sequences leading
22 to mastery of standards, high school graduation, and transition to
23 postsecondary education or employment. These programs of study
24 shall include career technical education courses as defined by the
25 California State Plan for Career Technical Education.

26 (3) Policies and agreements shall be adopted by participating
27 school districts that promote concurrent enrollment and dual credit
28 with community colleges and universities.

29 (4) Problem-based instructional methodologies, inquiry learning
30 approaches, and applied learning strategies shall be adopted within
31 all subject areas.

32 (5) Pupil progress through high school shall be determined by
33 mastery of grade-level standards-based performance benchmarks
34 developed by the participating school district.

35 (6) Multiple pathway programs shall be implemented by
36 participating school districts within the district's existing state and
37 local resources.

38 (7) Participating school districts shall involve local business,
39 labor, parent, and community partners to advise the district on the

1 development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the pilot
2 program.

3 (8) Participating school districts shall be eligible for waivers
4 pursuant to Section ~~52372.8~~ 58509 to more efficiently operate and
5 adapt to the needs of pupils and communities.

6 (9) Participating school districts shall receive priority for
7 appropriate competitive grant funding distributed by the
8 department.

9 (c) (1) A school district that maintains grades 9 to 12, inclusive,
10 may apply to the Superintendent to operate a Multiple Pathway
11 Pilot Program in accordance with this section. The department
12 shall review these applications and the Superintendent may initially
13 approve up to 20 applications, and may approve additional
14 applications on an annual basis thereafter.

15 (2) The review and approval of applications pursuant to
16 paragraph (1) shall be conducted on a competitive basis and
17 consideration shall be given to factors related to the geographic
18 diversity, type, and size of a school district, and the extent to which
19 a school district's pilot program would receive financial and in-kind
20 support from the business and civic community or funding from
21 government or foundation grants.

22 ~~(d) On or before January 18, 2018, the Superintendent shall~~
23 ~~transmit a report to the Legislature and the Governor that~~
24 ~~documents an independent evaluation of the costs and merits of~~
25 ~~the pilot program, and contains the Superintendent's~~
26 ~~recommendations regarding the need for additional statutory~~
27 ~~changes to facilitate the statewide expansion of the Multiple~~
28 ~~Pathway Pilot Program.~~

29 *(d) (1) On or before September 30, 2016, the Superintendent*
30 *shall transmit a report to the Legislature and the Governor that*
31 *documents an independent evaluation that includes both of the*
32 *following:*

33 *(A) The costs and merits of the pilot program, including pupil*
34 *outcome data that includes, but is not limited to, pupil dropout*
35 *and graduation rates, the number and percentage of participating*
36 *pupils who meet the requirements and prerequisites for admission*
37 *to California public institutions of postsecondary education, and*
38 *workforce outcome data, that may include the number or*
39 *percentage of pupils who earn a certificate, license, or the*
40 *equivalent in a designated occupation.*

1 (B) *The Superintendent's recommendations regarding the need*
2 *for additional statutory changes to facilitate the statewide*
3 *expansion of the Multiple Pathway Pilot Program, including*
4 *information on any waivers granted pursuant to paragraph (8) of*
5 *subdivision (b) and a description of how the waivers facilitated*
6 *the operation of multiple pathway programs.*

7 (2) *A report submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be*
8 *submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government*
9 *Code.*

10 (e) *The Superintendent may develop regulations necessary to*
11 *implement the provisions of this section.*

12 (f) *This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2017, and,*
13 *as of January 1, 2018, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,*
14 *that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2018, deletes or*
15 *extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.*

16 ~~SEC. 3. Section 52372.8 is added to the Education Code, to~~
17 ~~read:~~

18 ~~52372.8. For the operation of a multiple pathway program, as~~
19 ~~defined in Section 52372.5, the Superintendent may, upon~~
20 ~~application of a school district, waive any provisions of this code~~
21 ~~other than those relating to earthquake safety and the provisions~~
22 ~~of this chapter.~~

23 ~~SEC. 3. Section 58509 of the Education Code is amended to~~
24 ~~read:~~

25 ~~58509. For the operation of alternative schools as herein~~
26 ~~defined, or for the operation of multiple pathway programs~~
27 ~~pursuant to the pilot program established in Section 52372.7, the~~
28 ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application of a~~
29 ~~school district, waive any provisions of this code other than Section~~
30 ~~52372.7, those provisions relating to earthquake safety, and the~~
31 ~~provisions of this chapter.~~