

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2011

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 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. Career technical education: Multiple Pathway Pilot Program.

~~(1) Existing~~

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 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~~ *no more than* 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 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 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~~ *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
14 outcomes for our pupils, families, communities, and local and state
15 economies.

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

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

3 52372.7. (a) Commencing with the 2012–13 school year, the
4 Multiple Pathway Pilot Program is hereby established for the
5 purpose of implementing districtwide multiple pathway programs,
6 as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 52372.5, in all participating
7 school districts.

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

10 (1) Each participating school district shall incorporate
11 small-sized schools and smaller groupings of pupils within new
12 and existing high schools.

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

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

22 (4) Problem-based instructional methodologies, inquiry learning
23 approaches, and applied learning strategies shall be adopted within
24 all subject areas.

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

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

31 (7) Participating school districts shall involve local business,
32 labor, parent, and community partners to advise the district on the
33 development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the pilot
34 program.

35 ~~(8) Participating school districts shall be eligible for waivers~~
36 ~~pursuant to Section 58509 to more efficiently operate and adapt~~
37 ~~to the needs of pupils and communities.~~

38 ~~(9) Participating school districts shall receive priority for~~
39 ~~appropriate competitive grant funding distributed by the~~
40 ~~department.~~

1 (c) (1) A school district that maintains grades 9 to 12, inclusive,
 2 may apply to the Superintendent to operate a Multiple Pathway
 3 Pilot Program in accordance with this section. The department
 4 shall review these applications and the Superintendent may initially
 5 ~~approve up to 20 applications, and may approve additional~~
 6 ~~applications on an annual basis thereafter.~~ *approve no more than*
 7 *20 applications.*

8 (2) The review and approval of applications pursuant to
 9 paragraph (1) shall be conducted on a competitive basis and
 10 consideration shall be given to factors related to the geographic
 11 diversity, type, and size of a school district, and the extent to which
 12 a school district’s pilot program would receive financial and in-kind
 13 support from the business and civic community or funding from
 14 government or foundation grants.

15 (d) (1) On or before September 30, 2016, the Superintendent
 16 shall transmit a report to the Legislature and the Governor that
 17 documents an ~~independent~~ evaluation that includes both of the
 18 following:

19 (A) The costs and merits of the pilot program, including pupil
 20 outcome data that includes, but is not limited to, pupil dropout and
 21 graduation rates, the number and percentage of participating pupils
 22 who meet the requirements and prerequisites for admission to
 23 California public institutions of postsecondary education, and
 24 workforce outcome data, ~~that~~ *which* may include the number or
 25 percentage of pupils who earn a certificate, license, or the
 26 equivalent in a designated occupation.

27 (B) The Superintendent’s recommendations regarding the need
 28 for additional statutory changes to facilitate the statewide expansion
 29 of the Multiple Pathway Pilot Program, ~~including information on~~
 30 ~~any waivers granted pursuant to paragraph (8) of subdivision (b)~~
 31 ~~and a description of how the waivers facilitated the operation of~~
 32 ~~multiple pathway programs.~~

33 (2) A report submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be
 34 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
 35 Code.

36 (e) The Superintendent may develop regulations necessary to
 37 implement the provisions of this section.

38 (f) *The Superintendent shall use existing state and federal*
 39 *resources to implement the provisions of this section.*

40 (f)

1 (g) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2017, and,
2 as of January 1, 2018, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
3 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2018, deletes or
4 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

5 ~~SEC. 3. Section 58509 of the Education Code is amended to~~
6 ~~read:~~

7 ~~58509. For the operation of alternative schools as herein~~
8 ~~defined, or for the operation of multiple pathway programs pursuant~~
9 ~~to the pilot program established in Section 52372.7, the~~
10 ~~Superintendent may, upon application of a school district, waive~~
11 ~~any provisions of this code other than Section 52372.7, those~~
12 ~~provisions relating to earthquake safety, and the provisions of this~~
13 ~~chapter.~~