

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 11, 2011
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 2011
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2011
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1315

Introduced by Assembly Member Furutani

February 18, 2011

An act to add and repeal Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 11900) of Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1315, as amended, Furutani. Education: Gateway Centers.

Existing law provides that certain agencies and educational entities are to make various reports or certifications or to submit information to specified entities or agencies. These reports, certifications, and submittals encompass numerous areas of the Education Code.

This bill would create the Gateway Council comprised of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, or their designees.

The bill would ~~require individual~~ *create Gateway Centers that would be operated by local adult schools and community colleges* to leverage multiple education and workforce investment funding streams and improve the transition of adult learners into entry-level degree or certificate training programs that are linked to employment and the reform of the delivery of adult basic education services in California, as specified, as well as perform specified functions relating to this goal.

The council would be required to identify state and federal resources, as well as potential philanthropic support, to fund Gateway Centers, develop a request for proposal process to fund projects in different geographic areas of the state, provide project oversight, and report outcomes of the projects. The council would have ~~various specific~~ *specified* duties including, *but not limited to*, developing a request for application to participate process *by* no later than April 15, 2012, and funding at least 3 Gateway Center sites *beginning* no later than September 1, 2012, *contingent upon identification of funding*. The bill would require the council to submit a report to the *appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature and to the Governor* by January 15, 2016, on the outcomes of, *and lessons learned from*, the Gateway Centers, ~~and make the report provision inoperative on January 15, 2020.~~

This bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2017, unless a later enacted statute enacted on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends that date.

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 20 (commencing with Section 11900)
 2 is added to Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code,
 3 to read:

4
 5 CHAPTER 20. GATEWAY CENTERS
 6

7 11900. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
 8 following:

- 9 (1) A college degree or industry-recognized vocational
- 10 certificate is the principal pathway to personal economic security.
- 11 (2) Remedial English and mathematics, including
- 12 English-as-a-second-language programs, are the gateway to college
- 13 and skills training for many Californians.
- 14 (3) A range of basic skills programs are offered by the State
- 15 Department of Education and the California Community Colleges,
- 16 but historically these programs have not been well connected or
- 17 coordinated, and current institutional practices impede the effective
- 18 transition of students across systems from basic skills courses into
- 19 postsecondary education and training programs.

1 (4) Basic skills programs serve a diverse group of students,
2 including recent high school graduates with weak English or math
3 skills, high school dropouts, and students who need ~~English as a~~
4 ~~second language~~ *English-as-a-second-language* skills.

5 (5) Many adult learners make no or minimal progress with only
6 an extremely small percentage attaining a postsecondary certificate
7 or degree or transferring to a four-year college.

8 (6) Recent budget cutbacks and changes to categorical program
9 funding have resulted in decreased funding for basic skills
10 offerings, necessitating a reexamination of California's basic skills
11 system and how it meets the needs of all Californians, especially
12 for low-skilled adult learners and underrepresented students of
13 color.

14 (7) As policymakers consider broad, statewide reform, local
15 service providers are best equipped to develop and identify
16 effective program models to accelerate student progress, improve
17 program outcomes, and serve greater numbers of students with
18 limited funding.

19 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to create Gateway Centers
20 to improve the transition of adult learners into entry-level degree
21 or certificate training programs that are linked to employment, as
22 a building block toward wider reform of the delivery of adult basic
23 education services in California.

24 (c) *It is the intent of the Legislature that Gateway Centers serve*
25 *as learning laboratories for wider reform of the delivery of adult*
26 *basic education services in California by creating innovative*
27 *service models that provide seamless transitions across adult*
28 *education, postsecondary education, and employment. Gateway*
29 *Centers should develop and test models that improve course*
30 *alignment, accelerate student progress toward certificate and*
31 *degree attainment, leverage resources across basic skills providers,*
32 *deliver high-quality curriculum and instruction, provide student*
33 *support services and educator professional development, and lead*
34 *to improved student education and employment outcomes. These*
35 *models should build upon and leverage the curricula and faculty*
36 *strengths of the department's adult education programs and the*
37 *California Community Colleges' programs to meet the needs of*
38 *students from low-income and underserved communities.*

39 11901. (a) The Legislature hereby creates Gateway Centers
40 to be operated by local adult schools and community colleges to

1 leverage multiple education and workforce investment funding
2 streams and improve the transition of adult learners into entry-level
3 degree or certificate training programs that are linked to
4 employment.

5 ~~(b) Gateway Centers will serve as learning laboratories for wider
6 reform of the delivery of adult basic education services in
7 California by creating innovative service models that provide
8 seamless transitions across adult education, postsecondary
9 education, and employment. Gateway Centers would develop and
10 test models that improve course alignment, accelerate student
11 progress toward certificate and degree attainment, leverage
12 resources across basic skills providers, deliver high-quality
13 curriculum and instruction, provide student support services and
14 educator professional development, and lead to improved student
15 education and employment outcomes. These models will build
16 upon and leverage the curricula and faculty strengths of the
17 department's adult education programs and the California
18 Community Colleges' programs to meet the needs of students from
19 low-income and underserved communities.~~

20 ~~(c) Gateway Centers shall focus on developing models for
21 improving the transition of individuals with weak basic skills to
22 postsecondary education that provides opportunities for
23 employment in high-demand fields where there is career
24 advancement potential. Gateway Centers~~

25 ~~(b) Gateway Centers shall do all of the following:~~

26 ~~(1) Be jointly designed by local and regional partners including
27 adult education and community college program providers and
28 other stakeholders, including business and industry.~~

29 ~~(2) Align or redesign regional assessment systems to provide
30 more consistent and improved diagnostic services to identify needs
31 of adult students and connect them to learning strategies that
32 prepare them for success in academic and career technical courses.~~

33 ~~(3) Utilize evidence-based instructional practices, such as
34 contextualized teaching, coursework, that accelerates student
35 progress toward skill attainment, customized and modularized
36 instruction, peer group support, and remediation that is provided
37 while the student is concurrently enrolled in credit-bearing college
38 work.~~

- 1 ~~(4) Equip learners with the workplace competencies and~~
2 ~~college-ready skills to prepare them for certificate and degree~~
3 ~~programs.~~
4 ~~(5) Provide a range of student support services, such as academic~~
5 ~~tutoring, counseling, and financial aid.~~
6 ~~(6) Offer professional development opportunities and incentives~~
7 ~~to gateway instructors to enhance their pedagogical skills and~~
8 ~~instruction practices.~~
9 ~~(7)~~
10 (2) Report on program outcomes for the purpose of continuous
11 program improvement and program evaluation.
12 ~~(8)~~
13 (3) Secure matching funds from local workforce investment
14 boards, community-based organizations, regional industry partners,
15 and philanthropic or other sources.
16 (4) *Focus on developing models for improving the transition of*
17 *individuals with weak basic skills to postsecondary education*
18 *which provides opportunities for employment in high-demand*
19 *fields where there is career advancement potential, that may*
20 *include, but not be limited to, all of the following:*
21 (A) *The utilization of evidence-based instructional practices,*
22 *such as contextualized teaching, coursework that accelerates*
23 *student progress toward skill attainment, customized and*
24 *modularized instruction, peer group support, and remediation that*
25 *is provided while the student is concurrently enrolled in*
26 *credit-bearing college work.*
27 (B) *The provision of a range of student support services, such*
28 *as academic tutoring, counseling, and financial aid.*
29 (C) *The offering of professional development opportunities and*
30 *incentives to gateway instructors to enhance their pedagogical*
31 *skills and instruction practices.*
32 ~~(d) A~~
33 (c) *The Gateway Council is created to identify state and federal*
34 *resources, as well as potential philanthropic support, to fund the*
35 *Gateway Centers, develop a request for proposal process to fund*
36 *projects in different geographic areas of the state, provide project*
37 *oversight, and report outcomes. The Gateway Council shall be*
38 *comprised of the Superintendent, the Chancellor of the California*
39 *Community Colleges, and the Secretary of Labor and Workforce*

1 Development, or their designees. The Gateway Council shall do
2 all of the following:

3 (1) Identify funding for Gateway Centers from sources such as,
4 but not limited to, the federal Workforce Investment Act, the
5 federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of
6 2006, career technical education funds, community college and
7 adult education funds, and other grant or philanthropic sources.

8 (2) *Align or redesign regional assessment systems that can be*
9 *used by Gateway Centers to provide more consistent and improved*
10 *diagnostic services to identify needs of adult students and connect*
11 *them to learning strategies that prepare them for success in*
12 *academic and career technical courses.*

13 (3) *Establish criteria for funding Gateway Centers.*

14 ~~(2)~~

15 (4) Develop a request for application to participate in the
16 Gateway Centers by no later than April 15, 2012, *contingent upon*
17 *identification of funding.*

18 ~~(3)~~

19 (5) Fund a minimum of three Gateway Center sites beginning
20 no later than September 1, 2012, *contingent upon identification of*
21 *funding.*

22 ~~(4)~~

23 (6) Prepare a final report or evaluation to the Legislature as
24 specified in subdivision ~~(e)~~(d).

25 ~~(e)~~

26 (d) The Gateway Council shall submit a final report to the
27 *appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature and*
28 *to the Governor* by January 15, 2016, on the outcomes of, and
29 lessons learned from, the Gateway Centers. Based on these
30 outcomes, and an analysis of policy and institutional barriers to
31 wider implementation, the council shall make recommendations
32 to the Legislature regarding how the State Department of Education
33 and the California Community Colleges can align institutions and
34 programs more effectively, increase the quality of instruction, and
35 improve student outcomes, particularly for underrepresented
36 students of color.

37 ~~(f)~~

1 (e) This chapter is repealed on January 1, 2017, unless a later
2 enacted statute enacted on or before January 1, 2017, deletes or
3 extends that date.

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