

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 25, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1765**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Brownley**

February 17, 2012

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An act to add Section 44259.4 to the Education Code, relating to teachers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1765, as amended, Brownley. Teacher leaders.

Existing law establishes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to, among other things, establish professional standards, assessments, and examinations for entry and advancement in the education profession.

This bill would require the commission to convene an advisory panel to explore the recognition of leadership roles within the teaching career pathway, *as specified*. The commission would be required to consider the findings of the advisory panel and report to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2014, on recommendations for the recognition of teacher leaders *within one year of the implementation of these provisions. The bill would require the commission to use private funds to support the advisory panel on teacher leadership, and would prohibit the use of General Fund moneys for this purpose. The bill would further prohibit the implementation of these provisions unless the commission certifies that it has received private funding for this purpose.*

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. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (1) Given the profound educational changes that have taken  
4 place over the past decade, there has been a statewide increase in  
5 the use of experienced teachers as mentors, support providers,  
6 master teachers, teacher leaders, and providers of professional  
7 development services.

8 (2) The increased use of the knowledge, skills, and abilities of  
9 experienced teachers as peer developers and supporters is largely  
10 the result of programs such as teacher induction and internship  
11 programs, as well as local efforts to improve teacher quality in  
12 order to improve pupil achievement.

13 (3) Questions have been raised as to whether teachers are  
14 appropriately prepared and recognized for these types of roles  
15 within the existing teaching certification and professional  
16 development mechanisms.

17 (4) Teachers continue to develop in their professions throughout  
18 their careers. However, the current structure provides limited  
19 choices for veteran teachers looking for new opportunities to apply  
20 their experience and expertise without leaving the classroom.

21 (5) Highly qualified teachers are seeking increased opportunities  
22 for career advancement that keep them involved in pupil  
23 instruction, and not necessarily on the administrator ladder.

24 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to examine differentiated  
25 career opportunities for teachers to promote teacher quality and  
26 increase pupil achievement and school improvement.

27 SEC. 2. Section 44259.4 is added to the Education Code, to  
28 read:

29 44259.4. (a) The commission shall convene an advisory panel  
30 of stakeholders with expertise in the field of teacher leadership to  
31 explore the recognition of leadership roles within the teaching  
32 career pathway. The advisory panel ~~will~~ *shall* consider issues  
33 related to teacher leadership including, but not limited to, the  
34 following:

35 (1) The various roles of teacher leaders in today's public schools  
36 such as master teachers, mentors, induction support providers and  
37 fieldwork supervisors, instructional leaders, department chairs,  
38 curriculum coordinators, peer coaches, literacy or mathematics

1 coordinators, assessment coordinators, and accreditation  
2 coordinators.

3 (2) The use of teachers as instructional leaders and peer role  
4 models to foster innovation needed to effect change in turnaround  
5 schools.

6 (3) How recognition of teacher leaders may promote teacher  
7 retention.

8 (4) Formal preparation and recognition of the leadership roles  
9 that teachers assume.

10 (5) Application of adult learning theories to improve the  
11 instruction of teacher peers.

12 (6) Processes and procedures in other states for recognition of  
13 teacher leaders.

14 (7) The nexus of recognition of teacher leaders with the national  
15 board certification process.

16 (8) How recognition, including, but not limited to, an  
17 authorization, credential, recognition of study, special recognition,  
18 emphasis or specialization, could be developed and realized while  
19 maintaining local flexibility in hiring and staffing needs.

20 (9) The feasibility of teacher leader career ladders that could be  
21 used by school districts to align salary schedules or alternative  
22 salary structures.

23 (10) Current research and practices in teacher leader and mentor  
24 programs, including, but not limited to, the Beginning Teacher  
25 Support and Assessment System standards for support provider  
26 and assessor training, statewide subject matter projects, and the  
27 Certificated Staff Mentoring Program.

28 (b) The advisory panel shall include, but is not limited to,  
29 representatives of the following:

30 (1) Teachers who are performing school leadership duties.

31 (2) Teacher and administrator organizations.

32 (3) The Superintendent of ~~Public Instruction~~.

33 (4) Commission-approved teacher preparation programs.

34 (5) School boards and school districts.

35 (6) Other organizations deemed appropriate by the commission.

36 (c) The commission shall consider the findings of the advisory  
37 panel and report to the Governor and Legislature ~~by January 1,~~  
38 ~~2014,~~ on recommendations for the recognition of teacher leaders  
39 *within one year of the implementation of this section.*

1     *(d) The commission shall use private funds to support the*  
2     *advisory panel on teacher leadership described in this section.*  
3     *General Fund moneys shall not be used for this purpose.*

4     ~~(d)~~

5     *(e) (1) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under*  
6     *subdivision (c) is inoperative on January 1, ~~2018~~ 2017, pursuant*  
7     *to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.*

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

11    *(f) This section shall not be implemented unless the commission*  
12    *certifies that it has received private funding pursuant to subdivision*  
13    *(d) to complete the work of the advisory panel on teacher*  
14    *leadership.*