

Introduced by Senator LowenthalJanuary 31, 2011

An act to add Section 60605.85 to the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 140, as introduced, Lowenthal. Instructional materials: common core academic content standards.

Existing law establishes the Academic Content Standards Commission, consisting of 12 appointed members, as specified. The commission is required to develop academic content standards in language arts and mathematics and to present its recommended academic content standards to the State Board of Education. Existing law requires at least 85% of these standards to be the common core academic standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative consortium or any associated or related interstate collaboration. Existing law requires the state board to adopt or reject the academic content standards. Existing law exempts instructional materials adopted pursuant to these provisions from specified requirements relating to the approval and adoption of basic instructional materials by the state board.

This bill would require the State Department of Education to develop a list, on or before July 1, 2012, of supplemental instructional materials that are aligned with the common core academic content standards in language arts and mathematics adopted pursuant to the process described above. The bill would require the state board to either adopt or reject the instructional materials as proposed by the department. The bill would also permit the governing boards of school districts to adopt instructional materials other than those adopted by the state board if the governing board determines that other instructional materials are aligned with the

common core academic content standards and meet the needs of the pupils of the district. The bill would require the department to maintain on its Internet Web site a portal for local educational agencies to share information about instructional materials that are aligned with the common core academic content standards.

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 and 40 other states have adopted common core
4 academic content standards in language arts and mathematics to
5 provide consistent and clear expectations of what pupils need to
6 learn to compete in a global economy.

7 (b) Eighty-five percent of the standards are common across the
8 nation, with 15 percent being unique to California.

9 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the state collaborate
10 with other states in the development of instructional materials to
11 realize efficiencies, particularly for the 85 percent of the standards
12 that are common across the nation.

13 SEC. 2. Section 60605.85 is added to the Education Code, to
14 read:

15 60605.85. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the department
16 shall develop a list, on or before July 1, 2012, of supplemental
17 instructional materials that are aligned with the common core
18 academic content standards in language arts and mathematics
19 adopted pursuant to Section 60605.8. The supplemental
20 instructional materials shall provide a bridge between the common
21 core academic content standards and the standards-aligned
22 instructional materials currently being used by local educational
23 agencies.

24 (b) On or before August 1, 2012, the state board shall do either
25 of the following:

26 (1) Adopt the instructional materials as proposed by the
27 department.

28 (2) Reject the instructional materials as proposed by the
29 department. If the state board rejects the instructional materials it
30 shall provide a specific written explanation to the Superintendent,

1 the Governor, and the Legislature of the reasons why the proposed
2 materials were rejected.

3 (c) The governing boards of school districts may adopt
4 instructional materials other than those adopted by the state board
5 pursuant to subdivision (b) if the governing board determines that
6 other instructional materials are aligned with the common core
7 academic content standards and meet the needs of the pupils of
8 the district. A governing board of a school district may only adopt
9 instructional materials that comply with the requirements of Section
10 60226 and Article 3 (commencing with Section 60040) and Article
11 4 (commencing with Section 60060).

12 (d) Prior to adopting instructional materials pursuant to this
13 section, the state board, or the governing board of a school district
14 that chooses to adopt instructional materials pursuant to subdivision
15 (c), shall review the instructional materials for academic content,
16 social content, and instructional support to teachers and pupils.
17 Instructional materials adopted pursuant to this section shall meet
18 required program criteria for grade-level programs, intervention
19 programs, and English learners and shall include materials for use
20 by teachers.

21 (e) The department shall maintain on its Internet Web site a
22 portal for local educational agencies to share information about
23 instructional materials that are aligned with the common core
24 academic content standards.