

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 18, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 10, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 27, 2012

SENATE BILL

No. 958

Introduced by Senator Rubio

January 10, 2012

An act to add ~~Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 37800) to Part 22 of Division 3 of Title 2 of Section 33308.3~~ to the Education Code, relating to schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 958, as amended, Rubio. Schools: well-equipped classrooms: *guidelines*.

(1) ~~Existing~~

Existing law requires the governing board of a school district to determine whether each pupil in each school in the district has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, or both, that are aligned to the content standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

Existing law requires the State Department of Education to establish standards for use by school districts to ensure that the design and construction of school facilities are educationally appropriate and promote school safety.

Existing law requires a school district to have a current 3- to 5-year education technology plan as a precondition to receiving a technology grant administered by the department. Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop guidelines and criteria for inclusion in the required education technology plan and to ensure that each school district has access to technical assistance and an

approved online technology plan builder that the department determines is in compliance with state and federal requirements.

This bill would require the department to develop, and the state board to adopt, for each grade and subject, guidelines for a well-equipped classroom. The bill would require the guidelines to reflect the materials and physical environment required for a classroom to be in alignment with the common core standards. The bill would require the department to post the guidelines on its Internet Web site.

~~This bill would require the State Board of Education, by January 31, 2014, to establish definitions for well-equipped classrooms, which would reflect the materials and environment that are required for a classroom to be in alignment with the common core standards and would require the state board to update the definitions every 2 years. The bill would require the governing board of a school district and a county board of education to complete a thorough survey of each of their classrooms to determine whether the classrooms can be certified as being well-equipped classrooms. The bill would require a governing board of a school district and a county board of education to report the results of the survey to the department and include those results on the Internet Web site of the school district or county office of education. The bill would require the governing board of a school district and the county board of education to certify at least a designated percentage of the classrooms under their jurisdiction as well-equipped in accordance with a prescribed schedule. The bill would require the department annually to review and audit the certifications to ensure compliance with requirements. The bill would require the department to notify parents of pupils enrolled in a noncompliant school or school district of the noncompliance within 2 weeks of the department's determination of noncompliance.~~

~~Because the bill would establish new duties for school districts and county offices of education, it would constitute a state-mandated local program.~~

~~(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: *yes-no*.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 33308.3 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:

3 33308.3. The department shall develop, and the state board
4 shall adopt, for each grade and subject, guidelines for a
5 well-equipped classroom. The guidelines shall reflect the materials
6 and physical environment required for a classroom to be in
7 alignment with the common core standards. The department shall
8 post the guidelines on its Internet Web site.

9 SECTION 1. Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 37800) is
10 added to Part 22 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code,
11 to read:

12
13 CHAPTER 7. WELL-EQUIPPED CLASSROOMS

14
15 37800. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the
16 following meanings:

17 (a) "Certified" means a formal assurance by a governing body.

18 (b) "Classroom" means any single location in which pupils are
19 taught, including any physical location or through a digital learning
20 environment supported by a school or district.

21 (c) "Governing body" means the governing board of a school
22 district and a county board of education.

23 37805. (a) A well-equipped classroom shall reflect the
24 materials and environment that are required for a classroom to be
25 in alignment with the common core standards. The state board
26 shall adopt regulations defining well-equipped classrooms for each
27 subject and grade. The definition of a well-equipped classroom
28 shall include all items that are used for instructional purposes in
29 an appropriate learning environment and detail the specific supports
30 required in each separate learning environment to maximize pupil
31 learning and provide appropriate support to teachers in the delivery
32 of instruction.

33 (b) Before adopting the regulations, the state board shall survey
34 a wide range of instructional personnel from each subject and grade
35 and shall hold at least two public hearings. The state board shall

1 adopt initial regulations by January 31, 2014, and shall update the
2 regulations every two years. Before each update, the state board
3 shall survey a wide range of instructional personnel from each
4 subject and grade and shall hold at least two public hearings.

5 (e) ~~The definition of a well-equipped classroom shall include~~
6 ~~all expendable and nonexpendable items that are used for~~
7 ~~instructional purposes in an appropriate learning environment and~~
8 ~~a detailed list that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following~~
9 ~~classroom supports specific to each subject and grade:~~

10 (1) ~~Instructional materials, including any textbooks, workbooks,~~
11 ~~pupil handouts, and other direct instructional support aligned to~~
12 ~~state and local standards.~~

13 (2) ~~Technology, including hardware and software, designed to~~
14 ~~deliver instructional support specific to state standards or classroom~~
15 ~~objectives.~~

16 (3) ~~Supplemental resources, including classroom materials that~~
17 ~~assist teachers in differentiating learning and diversifying delivery~~
18 ~~through tactical, auditory, visual, and kinesthetic senses.~~

19 (4) ~~Appropriate physical room condition, including furniture,~~
20 ~~paint, desks, lighting, acoustics, climate control, indoor air quality,~~
21 ~~and other materials intended to support a clean, healthy, and~~
22 ~~comfortable learning environment for pupils.~~

23 (5) ~~Supplemental pupil supplies for independent or classroom~~
24 ~~work, including paper, notebooks, folders, pencils, and other related~~
25 ~~materials.~~

26 (6) ~~Schedules for the replacement of resources, timelines for~~
27 ~~the return of certification reviews, and other implementation~~
28 ~~matters pertaining to this chapter.~~

29 37810. (a) ~~By August 15, 2014, and two weeks before the first~~
30 ~~day of regular instruction of each school year, a governing body~~
31 ~~shall complete a thorough survey of each of its classrooms to~~
32 ~~determine whether the classrooms can be certified as being~~
33 ~~well-equipped classrooms and shall review the findings of the~~
34 ~~survey and certify individual classrooms by subject, grade, and~~
35 ~~school.~~

36 (b) ~~A governing body shall report the results of the survey,~~
37 ~~including a list of well-equipped classrooms and the overall~~
38 ~~percentage of the number of well-equipped classrooms, to the~~
39 ~~department and include those results on the Internet Web site of~~
40 ~~the school district or county office of education in a format that is~~

1 readily accessible to parents and community members. If a school
2 district or county office of education does not have an Internet
3 Web site, the school district or county office shall use other means
4 to ensure that the results are made available to the parents and
5 community members:

6 37815. ~~(a) The governing body shall ensure that each school
7 under its jurisdiction meets or exceeds the following requirements:~~

8 ~~(1) By August 15, 2014, at least 35 percent of classrooms in a
9 school shall be certified as well-equipped classrooms.~~

10 ~~(2) By August 15, 2015, at least 70 percent of classrooms in a
11 school shall be certified as well-equipped classrooms.~~

12 ~~(3) By August 15, 2016, 100 percent of classrooms in a school
13 shall be certified as well-equipped classrooms.~~

14 ~~(b) When the state board updates the regulations defining a
15 well-equipped classroom, a governing body shall have one year
16 to certify classrooms based on updated regulations.~~

17 ~~(c) If the updated definitions of a well-equipped classroom
18 adopted by the state board create a significant fiscal burden to
19 certify classrooms within two years, the state board may extend
20 the timeline for classrooms to become certified as being
21 well-equipped classrooms in any one grade or subject.~~

22 37820. ~~The department annually shall review and audit the
23 results of surveys reported by governing bodies to ensure
24 compliance with Section 37815 and the definitions of
25 well-equipped classrooms. Within two weeks of its determination
26 of noncompliance, the department shall notify parents of pupils
27 enrolled in a noncompliant school or school district of the
28 noncompliance.~~

29 SEC. 2. ~~If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
30 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
31 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
32 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
33 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~