

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 13, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 424

Introduced by Assembly Member Donnelly

February 15, 2013

An act to amend Sections 33540 and 51220 of the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 424, as amended, Donnelly. Pupil instruction: social sciences: State and Federal Constitutions.

(1) Existing law requires the Instructional Quality Commission to ensure that certain historical documents are incorporated, as appropriate, into the history-social science framework.

This bill would add the Magna Carta, the Articles of Confederation, and the California Constitution to the historical documents that are required to be incorporated into that framework and would require them to be incorporated based on the subject matter of the course. *The bill would require that it not be construed as requiring the Instructional Quality Commission to meet specifically for purposes of implementing the changes made by the bill and would require any recommended revisions made by the bill to be implemented in accordance with the regular adoption schedule.*

(2) Existing law requires instruction in social sciences for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to provide a foundation for understanding the history, resources, development, and government of California and the United States of America.

This bill would require instruction in the social sciences also to include the development of democracy and the history of the development of

the United States Constitution. To the extent that this requirement would require additional instruction, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) 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.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 33540 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 33540. (a) The state board and the department shall request
- 4 that the commission review and revise, as necessary, the course
- 5 requirements in the history-social science framework developed
- 6 by the History-Social Science Curriculum Framework and Criteria
- 7 Committee of the state board to ensure that minimum standards
- 8 for courses in American government and civics include sufficient
- 9 attention to teaching pupils how to interact, in a practical manner,
- 10 with state and local governmental agencies and representatives to
- 11 solve problems and to petition for changes in laws and procedures.
- 12 (b) When the history-social science framework is revised as
- 13 required by law, the commission shall ensure that the following
- 14 historical documents are incorporated into the framework, as
- 15 appropriate, based on the subject matter of the course:
- 16 (1) The Declaration of Independence.
- 17 (2) The United States Constitution, including the Bill of Rights.
- 18 (3) The Federalist Papers.
- 19 (4) The Emancipation Proclamation.
- 20 (5) The Gettysburg Address.
- 21 (6) George Washington’s Farewell Address.
- 22 (7) The Magna Carta.
- 23 (8) The Articles of Confederation.
- 24 (9) The California Constitution.

1 SEC. 2. Section 51220 of the Education Code is amended to
2 read:

3 51220. The adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12,
4 inclusive, shall offer courses in the following areas of study:

5 (a) English, including knowledge of and appreciation for
6 literature, language, and composition, and the skills of reading,
7 listening, and speaking.

8 (b) Social sciences, drawing upon the disciplines of
9 anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science,
10 psychology, and sociology, designed to fit the maturity of the
11 pupils. Instruction shall provide a foundation for understanding
12 the history, resources, development, and ~~government~~ *governments*
13 of California and the United States of America, including the
14 development of democracy and the history of the development of
15 the United States Constitution; instruction in our American legal
16 system, the operation of the juvenile and adult criminal justice
17 systems, and the rights and duties of citizens under the criminal
18 and civil law and the State and Federal Constitutions; the
19 development of the American economic system, including the role
20 of the entrepreneur and labor; the relations of persons to their
21 human and natural environment; eastern and western cultures and
22 civilizations; human rights issues, with particular attention to the
23 study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust,
24 and contemporary issues.

25 (c) Foreign language or languages, beginning not later than
26 grade 7, designed to develop a facility for understanding, speaking,
27 reading, and writing the particular language.

28 (d) Physical education, with emphasis given to physical activities
29 that are conducive to health and to vigor of body and mind, as
30 required by Section 51222.

31 (e) Science, including the physical and biological aspects, with
32 emphasis on basic concepts, theories, and processes of scientific
33 investigation and on the place of humans in ecological systems,
34 and with appropriate applications of the interrelation and
35 interdependence of the sciences.

36 (f) Mathematics, including instruction designed to develop
37 mathematical understandings, operational skills, and insight into
38 problem-solving procedures.

1 (g) Visual and performing arts, including dance, music, theater,
2 and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic
3 appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

4 (h) Applied arts, including instruction in the areas of consumer
5 and homemaking education, industrial arts, general business
6 education, or general agriculture.

7 (i) Career technical education designed and conducted for the
8 purpose of preparing youth for gainful employment in the
9 occupations and in the numbers that are appropriate to the
10 personnel needs of the state and the community served and relevant
11 to the career desires and needs of the pupils.

12 (j) Automobile driver education, designed to develop a
13 knowledge of the provisions of the Vehicle Code and other laws
14 of this state relating to the operation of motor vehicles, a proper
15 acceptance of personal responsibility in traffic, a true appreciation
16 of the causes, seriousness, and consequences of traffic accidents,
17 and to develop the knowledge and attitudes necessary for the safe
18 operation of motor vehicles. A course in automobile driver
19 education shall include education in the safe operation of
20 motorcycles.

21 (k) Other studies as may be prescribed by the governing board.

22 *SEC. 3. This act shall not be construed as requiring the*
23 *Instructional Quality Commission to meet specifically for purposes*
24 *of implementing the changes made by Section 1 of this act, and*
25 *any recommended revisions made pursuant to Section 1 of this act*
26 *shall be implemented in accordance with the regular adoption*
27 *schedule.*

28 ~~SEC. 3.~~

29 *SEC. 4.* 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.

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