

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1178

Introduced by Assembly Member Bocanegra

February 22, 2013

An act to add Chapter 18.5 (commencing with Section 11750) to Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1178, as introduced, Bocanegra. Pupil instruction: California Promise Neighborhood Initiative.

Existing law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary schools in this state, and authorizes local educational agencies throughout the state to operate schools and provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive. Existing law also establishes a system of postsecondary education in the state that consists of 4 segments: the University of California, the California State University, the California Community Colleges, and independent institutions of higher education.

This bill would express findings and declarations of the Legislature about, among other things, the educational, cultural, and health needs of California's most distressed communities. The bill would establish the California Promise Neighborhood Initiative to develop a system of 40 California promise neighborhoods throughout the state to support children's development. The bill would require the State Department of Education to designate the 40 California promise neighborhoods by January 1, 2016, and would specify that the promise neighborhoods would be selected from areas that voluntarily apply, as prescribed, for that designation. The bill would specify items that would be required

to be included in an application to be designated as a California promise neighborhood. The bill would specify the services to be provided to the participating neighborhoods. The bill would also specify information to be annually reported to the State Department of Education by designated California promise neighborhoods.

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 18.5 (commencing with Section 11750)
2 is added to Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code,
3 to read:

4
5 CHAPTER 18.5. CALIFORNIA PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD
6 INITIATIVE

7
8 Article 1. Findings and General Provisions
9

10 11750. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of the
11 following:

12 (a) All children throughout California, regardless of their
13 families' socioeconomic, English learning, or special education
14 status, or the neighborhoods in which they reside, deserve access
15 to a high-quality education, health services, and social services
16 that will prepare them to succeed in college and in their careers,
17 and that will allow them to become productive citizens contributing
18 to the wealth of our cities, state, and nation.

19 (b) Many children living in California's most distressed
20 communities lack access to opportunities that will ensure adequate
21 academic, social, and health preparation for achieving success and
22 helping to end family and neighborhood poverty.

23 (c) Innovative and comprehensive approaches to break the cycle
24 of poverty are necessary for creating opportunities for children to
25 succeed and ultimately to help turn around poor neighborhoods.

26 (d) Long-term investments in underserved children's academic,
27 social, and health development and the strengthening of a system
28 of family and community support shared by various stakeholders
29 are also needed to sustain the future of our communities.

1 (e) The Harlem Children’s Zone in New York has demonstrated
2 the lasting benefits of developing a network of support services to
3 revitalize an entire community focusing on the social, health, and
4 educational development of children.

5 (f) The Federal Promise Neighborhood Initiative, inspired by
6 the Harlem Children’s Zone, seeks to develop a cradle-to-career
7 pipeline of support services in specific neighborhoods that will
8 transform communities.

9 (g) Out of more than 50 communities in California that applied
10 for the Federal Promise Neighborhood Initiative grant, 12
11 communities in California were selected to receive planning or
12 implementation grants.

13 (h) Many of the communities that were not selected by the
14 federal government continue to work on developing community
15 plans because cross-community planning provides lasting benefits
16 in aligning and maximizing resources in a community.

17 (i) Establishing a network of services to serve specific families
18 breaks down many unnecessary barriers in the effective delivery
19 of programs and services.

20 (j) The alignment of local, state, and federal resources can
21 maximize existing dollars and better serve specific communities.

22 (k) Central to the development of the Harlem Children’s Zone
23 and the Federal Promise Neighborhood Initiative has been the use
24 of data to drive real-time decisionmaking and program
25 improvement.

26 11751. (a) The California Promise Neighborhood Initiative is
27 hereby established to develop a system of 40
28 “promise”neighborhoods throughout California to support
29 children’s development from cradle to career. Participation in this
30 initiative is voluntary.

31 (b) The purpose of the California Promise Neighborhood
32 Initiative is to significantly improve the outcomes and opportunities
33 for children and their families living in California’s most distressed
34 neighborhoods and to transform those communities. By using
35 results-driven accountability and leveraging federal, state, local,
36 and private resources, the state will seek to provide children and
37 their families in these neighborhoods with access to a
38 community-based continuum of high-quality services and practices
39 based on the best available evidence, which will address the needs
40 of children from birth through college and career.

1 (c) The department shall designate 40 California promise
 2 neighborhoods by January 1, 2016, selecting from applicants that
 3 meet eligibility criteria, and have demonstrated that they will
 4 implement a comprehensive, integrated continuum of solutions or
 5 pipeline of services based on the best available evidence to improve
 6 academic achievement, including early childhood programs, child
 7 and youth social and health development, college and career
 8 readiness, and efforts to build strong family and community
 9 supports measured by common outcomes in neighborhoods with
 10 high concentrations of low-income families, persistently
 11 low-achieving schools, or schools with an achievement gap.

12 (d) The department shall begin the California Promise
 13 Neighborhood Initiative selection process by including the existing
 14 and federally recognized promise neighborhoods.

15 11752. As used in this chapter:

16 (a) A “California promise neighborhood” is a specific
 17 geographic area that represents a community focused on
 18 revitalization through the establishment of a cradle-to-career
 19 network of services aimed at improving the health, safety,
 20 education, and economic development of the defined area.

21 (b) An “eligible applicant” is any of the following:

22 (1) A nonprofit organization, including a faith-based
 23 organization to the extent permitted by law.

24 (2) An institution of higher education.

25 (3) An Indian tribe or tribal organization, serving as a lead
 26 agency representative of the proposed geographic area to be served
 27 and in partnership with at least one public elementary or secondary
 28 school, traditional or charter, located within the identified
 29 geographic area that the grant applied for would serve.

30

31 Article 2. Program Provisions

32

33 11753. (a) The department shall work with the Employment
 34 Development Department, the California Health and Human
 35 Services Agency, the Business, Transportation and Housing
 36 Agency, the California Children and Families Commission, the
 37 California Community Colleges, the California State University,
 38 the University of California, the Student Aid Commission, the
 39 Department of Parks and Recreation, and other agencies and
 40 departments selected by the Governor to implement this chapter.

1 (b) Commencing no later than July 1, 2014, the department shall
2 develop an application process for eligible entities to apply for
3 sites to become California promise neighborhoods.

4 (c) For purposes of implementing this chapter, the department
5 may use existing available state resources and federal funds. If
6 state or federal funds are not available or sufficient, the department
7 may apply for and accept grants and receive donations and other
8 financial support from public or private sources for purposes of
9 this chapter.

10 11754. (a) The department shall work with the California
11 Health and Human Services Agency and county health and human
12 services agencies to ensure, to the extent feasible, the maximum
13 participation of eligible populations within California promise
14 neighborhoods in the following programs:

15 (1) The CalFresh program pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing
16 with Section 18900) of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and
17 Institutions Code.

18 (2) The Medi-Cal program pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing
19 with Section 14000) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and
20 Institutions Code.

21 (b) The department shall post participation rates for these areas
22 and establish a goal of 90 percent participation by January 1, 2016.
23 The department shall explore different methods of increasing
24 participation, including, but not necessarily limited to, a universal
25 application and electronic data sharing with schools and school
26 districts.

27 11755. The department shall work with the California Children
28 and Families Commission (First 5 Commission), established
29 pursuant to Division 108 (commencing with Section 130100) of
30 the Health and Safety Code, to ensure that, to the extent feasible,
31 children and families residing within California promise
32 neighborhoods receive maximum consideration for receiving
33 funding for competitive grants administered by that commission.

34 11756. (a) The department shall work with the California
35 Community Colleges, the California State University, the
36 University of California, the Student Aid Commission, and the
37 California Postsecondary Education Commission to ensure that,
38 to the extent feasible, children and families residing within
39 California promise neighborhoods receive maximum consideration,

1 to the extent feasible, when applying for funding for competitive
2 grants.

3 (b) Schools and school districts within California promise
4 neighborhoods shall, at a minimum, receive maximum
5 consideration for receiving funding for the following competitive
6 grants:

7 (1) The After School Education and Safety Program established
8 pursuant to Section 8482.

9 (2) A California Partnership Academy established pursuant to
10 Article 5 (commencing with Section 54690) of Chapter 9 of Part
11 29 of Division 4 of Title 2.

12 (3) The Immediate Intervention-Underperforming Schools
13 Program established pursuant to Section 52053.

14 (4) Career technical education pathways grants pursuant to
15 Section 88532.

16 11757. (a) The department shall work with the Employment
17 Development Department, the California Workforce Investment
18 Board, and the Employment Training Panel to ensure that, to the
19 extent feasible, children and families residing within California
20 promise neighborhoods receive maximum consideration for
21 receiving funding for competitive grants.

22 (b) Cities and counties in which California promise
23 neighborhoods are located shall, to the extent feasible, receive
24 priority in the following programs and grants:

25 (1) Programs of the Employment Training Panel established
26 pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 10200) of Part
27 1 of Division 3 of the Unemployment Insurance Code.

28 (2) Workforce development solicitations for proposals.

29 11758. (a) The department shall work with the Department of
30 Parks and Recreation to ensure that children and families residing
31 within California promise neighborhoods receive, to the extent
32 feasible, maximum consideration for receiving funding for
33 competitive grants.

34 (b) Cities and counties in which California promise
35 neighborhoods are located shall receive, to the extent feasible,
36 maximum consideration for funding for the creation of new parks
37 and recreation activities in underserved communities.

38 11759. (a) For purposes of receiving a California promise
39 neighborhood designation, an eligible applicant shall submit an

1 application to the department at a time, in the manner, and
2 containing the information, the department may require.

3 (b) An eligible applicant shall submit a description of the
4 geographically defined area or neighborhood to be served and the
5 level of distress in that area based on indicators of need and other
6 relevant indicators.

7 (c) In order for an area to apply, the geographic area of the
8 proposed California promise neighborhood shall meet all of the
9 following minimum criteria:

10 (1) Contain a designated high school or schools and feeder
11 schools.

12 (2) Have high poverty rates.

13 (3) Have high unemployment.

14 (4) Have low high school graduation rates.

15 (d) An eligible applicant, at a minimum, shall include the
16 following partners as part of its application:

17 (1) Other community organizations.

18 (2) Child development organizations.

19 (3) Schools or school districts.

20 (4) Postsecondary educational institutions.

21 (5) City and county governments.

22 (6) Representatives of local business and industry.

23 (e) An eligible applicant shall submit a preliminary
24 memorandum of understanding, signed by representatives of each
25 partner entity or agency.

26 (f) Eligible applicants shall submit a description of a plan to
27 significantly improve the academic, health, and social outcomes
28 of children living in an identified neighborhood and to support the
29 healthy development and well-being of children and youth in the
30 neighborhood by providing a continuum of solutions to address
31 the neighborhood's needs. The continuum of solutions proposed
32 by the eligible applicant shall be based on the best information
33 available to the applicant.

34 (g) An eligible applicant shall submit an analysis of community
35 assets within, or accessible to, the neighborhood, including, at a
36 minimum, a description of all of the following:

37 (1) Early learning programs and network, including home
38 visiting, high-quality child care, Early Head Start programs, Head
39 Start programs, and prekindergarten programs.

- 1 (2) Community centers, after school programs, and other
- 2 opportunities for out-of-school activities.
- 3 (3) Transportation resources.
- 4 (4) Parks and recreational facilities.
- 5 (5) Available healthy food options and opportunities for physical
- 6 activity.
- 7 (6) Existing family and student support organizations.
- 8 (7) Businesses and employers located in the community.
- 9 (8) Postsecondary educational institutions located in or near the
- 10 community.
- 11 (h) A description of the process by which to develop, launch,
- 12 and implement a longitudinal data system that integrates
- 13 student-level data from multiple sources to measure progress on
- 14 educational and family and community support indicators for all
- 15 children in the neighborhood.
- 16 11760. Each eligible entity that receives a California promise
- 17 neighborhood designation under this chapter shall prepare and
- 18 submit an annual report to the department, which shall include
- 19 both of the following:
- 20 (a) Information about the number and percentage of children,
- 21 family members, and community members in the neighborhood
- 22 who are served by the program, including a description of the
- 23 number and percentage of children accessing each of the pipeline
- 24 services and the number of family and community members served
- 25 by which programs.
- 26 (b) Disaggregated data regarding population and program levels
- 27 related to the program’s success in annual growth, expressed with
- 28 respect to program and project indicators and performance metrics
- 29 developed by the department.