

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 23, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1750**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo**

February 14, 2014

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An act to add and repeal Section 33544 of the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1750, as amended, Alejo. Pupil instruction: ethnic studies: report.

Existing law requires a school district, as part of its adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to offer courses in specified areas of study, including social sciences. Existing law establishes the Instructional Quality Commission and requires the commission to, among other things, recommend curriculum frameworks to the State Board of Education.

This bill would require the commission to identify model programs, standards, and curricula relating to ethnic studies at the high school level. The bill would ~~require~~ *authorize* the commission to consult with experts on ethnic studies, multiculturalism, or diversity, including, among others, representatives from the State Department of Education and classroom teachers who are currently teaching in California public high schools. The bill would require the commission, on or before January 1, ~~2016~~, 2017, to prepare and submit a report *to the Governor and the Legislature* that, among other things, identifies the best practices and standards for establishing and implementing ethnic studies in public

high schools, ~~to the Governor and the Legislature, and to make~~ *would require* the report *to be made* available on the State Department of Education’s Internet Web site. The bill would make the implementation of the bill’s provisions subject to the availability of funds to the commission for those purposes from any source, including state, federal, and other nonstate funding sources.

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. Section 33544 is added to the Education Code,  
 2 to read:  
 3 33544. (a) The commission shall identify model programs,  
 4 standards, and curricula relating to ethnic studies at the high school  
 5 level. The commission shall also identify factors to train teachers  
 6 to work effectively with diverse pupils and families and to  
 7 encourage respect for diversity in the classroom.  
 8 (b) The commission shall prepare a report that, at minimum,  
 9 does all of the following:  
 10 (1) Reviews the most current research on ethnic studies for  
 11 secondary education.  
 12 (2) Reviews and evaluates existing standards, curricula,  
 13 programs, and training regarding ethnic studies for secondary  
 14 education.  
 15 (3) Identifies the best practices and standards for establishing  
 16 and implementing ethnic studies in public high schools.  
 17 (4) Assesses the adequacy of current ethnic studies courses in  
 18 California public high schools.  
 19 (5) Makes recommendations for establishing a “California  
 20 Cultures” multicultural or ethnic studies course that can be  
 21 incorporated into existing high school curriculum.  
 22 (c) The commission shall complete and submit the report to the  
 23 Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1, ~~2016~~ 2017.  
 24 The report shall also be made available to the public on the  
 25 department’s Internet Web site.  
 26 (d) (1) The commission ~~shall~~ *may* consult with experts on ethnic  
 27 studies, multiculturalism, or diversity including, but not limited  
 28 to, all of the following:  
 29 (A) Representatives from the department.

- 1 (B) Representatives from the University of California.
- 2 (C) Representatives from the California State University.
- 3 (D) Academic faculty, researchers, and scientists with
- 4 backgrounds in ethnic studies, American studies, history, education,
- 5 psychology, or medicine.
- 6 (E) Representatives from community-based organizations
- 7 concerned with pupil issues or civil rights.
- 8 (F) Representatives from professional associations relating to
- 9 ethnic studies.
- 10 (G) Classroom teachers who are currently teaching in California
- 11 public high schools.
- 12 (H) Public school board members with expertise in multicultural
- 13 or ethnic studies.
- 14 (2) In choosing experts with which to consult, the commission
- 15 is encouraged to ensure that current classroom teachers in public
- 16 high schools are principally and meaningfully consulted.
- 17 (e) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (d), this act shall not
- 18 apply to the University of California, except to the extent that the
- 19 Regents of the University of California, by appropriate resolution,
- 20 make this section applicable.
- 21 (f) (1) The report to be submitted pursuant to this section shall
- 22 be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
- 23 Code.
- 24 (2) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this
- 25 section is repealed on January 1, 2019.
- 26 (g) This section shall be implemented only to the extent that
- 27 funds are available to the commission for purposes of this section
- 28 from any source, including, but not limited to, state funding, federal
- 29 funding, and other nonstate funding sources.