

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 18, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 5, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1910

**Introduced by Assembly Member Gray
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Fox)**

February 19, 2014

An act to add Division 11 (commencing with Section 19000) to the Unemployment Insurance Code, relating to workforce investment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1910, as amended, Gray. California Workforce Investment Board: San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning and Preparedness Act of 2014.

Existing law declares that a well-educated and highly skilled workforce is necessary for the state to remain competitive in the global economy and that workforce investment programs and services need to work collaboratively with state and local entities to accomplish this policy goal.

Existing law provides that the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) is responsible for assisting the Governor in, among other things, the development, oversight, and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system. Existing law requires the board, in collaboration with specified state and local partners, and the local workforce investment boards to develop a specified strategic workforce plan, updated at least every 5 years, to address the state's economic, demographic, and workplace needs, and to meet the single state plan requirement of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. In that regard,

the board aligns and leverages state and local Workforce Investment Act funding streams, identifies specified industry sectors and clusters, provides skills-gap analysis, and establishes specified eligibility criteria for the Workforce Investment Act eligible training provider list.

This bill would require the CWIB to establish the San Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Planning and Preparedness Council as a special committee, composed of specified members, to, among other things, identify and develop the framework of, and make recommendations as to, appropriate strategies, programs, policies, partnerships, and funding opportunities that are necessary to address the growing need for a highly skilled and well-trained workforce to meet the needs of the San Joaquin Valley’s emerging technology and energy economy. The bill would require the council to report to the Legislature, by April 1 each year, on the status of its activities and its development of an oil and natural gas workforce strategic initiative.

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. Division 11 (commencing with Section 19000)
2 is added to the Unemployment Insurance Code, to read:

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4 DIVISION 11. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL
5 ECONOMIC PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS ACT OF 2014

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7 19000. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the
8 San Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Planning and Preparedness
9 Act of 2014.

10 19001. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

11 (a) The San Joaquin Valley composed of the Counties of Fresno,
12 Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare
13 is home to an estimated 4 million Californians.

14 (b) For the last two decades, the San Joaquin Valley Region has
15 maintained average annual unemployment rates ranging from 62
16 percent to 150 percent above the state average.

17 (c) The San Joaquin Valley’s per capita income is \$31,533 and
18 50 percent of the San Joaquin Valley’s population is in poverty
19 including thousands of unemployed and underemployed people.

1 (d) The San Joaquin Valley continues to face significant
2 economic challenges including, poverty, unemployment, and an
3 inadequately trained workforce.

4 (e) The San Joaquin Valley is also home to hard-working
5 immigrants, new entrepreneurs, business and labor leaders, learning
6 institutions including the new University of California, Merced,
7 cities and towns renewing themselves, and community and
8 nonprofit agencies uniting to develop civic leadership.

9 (f) Developing the San Joaquin Valley's workforce skills and
10 aligning public and private workforce development resources with
11 industry growth opportunities in the region to meet current and
12 future business workforce requirements and close the
13 business-workforce skills gap will cultivate higher paying jobs
14 and will allow its economy to flourish.

15 19002. (a) (1) The California Workforce Investment Board
16 (CWIB) shall establish a special committee known as the San
17 Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Planning and Preparedness
18 Council (SJVREPPC) to develop an oil and natural gas workforce
19 strategic initiative to address the growing need for a highly skilled
20 and well-trained workforce to meet the needs of the expanding
21 energy economy of the San Joaquin Valley.

22 (2) Membership of the SJVREPPC shall include appropriate
23 representatives from the CWIB existing membership, including a
24 K-12 education representative, a California Community Colleges
25 representative, an Employment Development Department
26 representative, a Department of Food and Agriculture
27 representative, a Governor's Office of Business and Economic
28 Development representative, a California Transportation
29 Commission representative, *a local workforce investment board*
30 *representative*, and other appropriate members.

31 (3) The CWIB may call on other state agencies, other higher
32 education representatives, and industry representatives as well as
33 philanthropic and nongovernmental groups as appropriate and
34 necessary to serve as consultants to the SJVREPPC in the
35 development of this strategic initiative.

36 (b) In developing the strategic initiative, the SJVREPPC shall
37 do all of the following:

38 (1) Identify and develop the framework of, and make
39 recommendations as to, appropriate strategies, programs, policies,
40 partnerships, and funding opportunities that are necessary to

1 address the growing need for a highly skilled and well-trained
2 workforce to meet the needs of the San Joaquin Valley’s emerging
3 technology and energy economy. The SJVREPPC shall, when
4 examining the energy industry in the San Joaquin Valley, consider
5 the business and workforce needs of the entire energy industry
6 cluster.

7 (2) Identify resources and facilitate linkages between federal
8 and state agencies and the Central Valley Higher Education
9 Consortium, the Central California Workforce Collaborative, local
10 workforce investment boards, and individual career technology
11 programs, high schools, and higher education institutions on issues
12 related to education, training, and workforce development in
13 support of the region’s expanding energy industry sector.

14 (3) Facilitate the development of public, private, philanthropic,
15 and nongovernmental partnerships to build and expand the state’s
16 workforce development programs, network, and infrastructure
17 related to the energy sector.

18 (4) Provide policy guidance for job training programs in the
19 expanding energy sector to assist and prepare specific populations
20 in the San Joaquin Valley, such as at-risk youth, displaced workers,
21 veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others facing
22 barriers to employment.

23 (5) Develop, collect, interpret, and distribute statewide and
24 regional labor market data on California’s current and expanding
25 workforce needs, trends, and job growth within the oil and gas
26 industry.

27 (6) Identify funding resources and make recommendations on
28 how to expand and leverage these funds.

29 (7) Foster additional regional collaboration within the San
30 Joaquin Valley related to the emerging petroleum technology and
31 energy economic sector.

32 19003. On or before April 1, 2015, and each April 1 thereafter,
33 the CWIB shall report to the Legislature on the status of
34 SJVREPPC activities and its development of an oil and natural
35 gas workforce strategic initiative. The report shall be submitted in
36 compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

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