

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 11, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2247

Introduced by Assembly Member Williams

February 21, 2014

An act to add Section 66014.8 to the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2247, as amended, Williams. Postsecondary education: accreditation documents.

Under existing law, there are 4 segments of postsecondary education in this state. These segments include the three public segments: the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges. Private postsecondary educational institutions and independent institutions of higher education constitute the other segment.

This bill would require each campus or other unit of the segments listed above that receives public funding through state or federal financial aid programs, is institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, and offers education and training programs to California students to make final institutional accreditation documents available to the public via the institution's Internet Web site, as specified.

To the extent that this bill would require community college districts to provide this service, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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 66014.8 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:

3 66014.8. (a) *For purposes of this section, the following terms*
4 *have the following meanings:*

5 (1) *“Institutional accreditation documents” means the*
6 *institution’s institutional accreditation visiting team reports and*
7 *the institutional accreditation agency action letters following an*
8 *accreditation agency’s action.*

9 (2) *“Segment of postsecondary education” means the California*
10 *Community Colleges, the California State University, the*
11 *University of California, the independent institutions of higher*
12 *education, as defined in Section 66010, or the private*
13 *postsecondary educational institutions, as defined in Section 94858.*

14 (b) All campuses or other units of any segment of postsecondary
15 education that receive public funding through state or federal
16 financial aid programs, are institutionally accredited by an
17 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department
18 of Education, and offer education and training programs to
19 California students shall make final institutional accreditation
20 documents available to the public via display in a prominent
21 location on the institution’s Internet Web site, with a link to these
22 documents on the institutional Web site homepage.

23 ~~(b) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the~~
24 ~~following meanings:~~

25 ~~(1) “Institutional accreditation documents” means the~~
26 ~~institution’s institutional accreditation self-study report, the~~
27 ~~institutional accreditation visiting team’s final report, and the~~
28 ~~institutional accreditation agency’s final action letter.~~

1 ~~(2) “Segment of postsecondary education” means the California~~
2 ~~Community Colleges, the California State University, the~~
3 ~~University of California, the independent institutions of higher~~
4 ~~education, as defined in Section 66010, or the private~~
5 ~~postsecondary educational institutions, as defined in Section 94858.~~

6 ~~(c) A campus or other unit of any segment of postsecondary~~
7 ~~education whose documents are not currently available to the~~
8 ~~public shall make all institutional accreditation documents~~
9 ~~completed after January 1, 2015, available to the public pursuant~~
10 ~~to subdivision (b).~~

11 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
12 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
13 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
14 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
15 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.