

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 7, 2014
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2014

SENATE BILL

No. 836

Introduced by Senator Corbett
(Coauthor: Senator Block)

January 6, 2014

An act to add Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 92985) to Part 57 of Division 9 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to brain research.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 836, as amended, Corbett. Brain research: Cal-BRAIN program.

Existing law establishes various health research grant programs, including the Cancer Research Program, the Breast Cancer Research Program, and the Spinal Cord Injury Research Program.

This bill, the California Blueprint for Research to Advance Innovations in Neuroscience (Cal-BRAIN) Act of 2014, would ~~provide~~ *that request* the Regents of the University of California ~~may~~ *to* establish the Cal-BRAIN program to leverage California's research assets and the federal BRAIN Initiative's funding opportunities to accelerate the development of brain mapping techniques, including the development of new technologies, in order to achieve certain goals. The bill would additionally request the University of California to administer the Cal-BRAIN program consistent with specified objectives and to provide information about the program through an Internet Web site. *These provisions would only be implemented to the extent that adequate funding is appropriated to the University of California, as specified.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) In April 2013, President Obama unveiled the Brain Research
4 through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN)
5 Initiative — a collaborative program that will map the activity of
6 every neuron in the human brain with a programmed total
7 investment of more than \$300 million per year over 10 years.

8 (b) The BRAIN Initiative is launching with approximately \$110
9 million in funding for research in 2014, as well as additional private
10 sector investment from institutes and foundations based in
11 California.

12 (c) California is poised to be a world leader in this research
13 effort given the prominent role of scientists and industry leaders
14 throughout the state.

15 (d) Four of the six scientists who proposed the BRAIN Initiative
16 and six of the 15 members of the Advisory Committee to the
17 Director of the National Institutes of Health for the BRAIN
18 Initiative are from California.

19 (e) Some California-based corporations have indicated they are
20 interested in collaborating with brain research institutions on
21 research for the BRAIN Initiative to bring new discoveries to the
22 marketplace.

23 (f) The BRAIN Initiative has the potential to be a major driver
24 of new industries and jobs in biotechnology, artificial intelligence,
25 and information technologies, as well as a catalyst for major
26 breakthroughs in brain-related diseases, injuries, and illnesses,
27 including Alzheimer's disease, which is programmed to cost
28 California over \$30 billion a year by 2030.

29 (g) The products of scientific research improve the quality of
30 our lives and health and provide us with high-quality jobs that
31 employ and demand a highly skilled workforce.

32 (h) Given California's assets and capacity for collaboration,
33 entrepreneurship, and innovation, a state investment to expand and
34 accelerate this research in the state and to promote the translation
35 of breakthroughs into the marketplace is an important investment
36 in the intellectual infrastructure for California's economic future.

37 SEC. 2. Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 92985) is added
38 to Part 57 of Division 9 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

1 CHAPTER 15. THE CALIFORNIA BLUEPRINT FOR RESEARCH TO
2 ADVANCE INNOVATIONS IN NEUROSCIENCE ACT OF 2014

3
4 92985. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the
5 California Blueprint for Research to Advance Innovations in
6 Neuroscience (Cal-BRAIN) Act of 2014.

7 92986. (a) The Regents of the University of California ~~may~~
8 *are requested to* establish the Cal-BRAIN program to leverage
9 California's vast research assets and the federal BRAIN Initiative's
10 funding opportunities to accelerate the development of brain
11 mapping techniques, including the development of new
12 technologies, which will create new, high-paying jobs in California
13 while advancing patient care and improving lives, in order to
14 achieve the following goals:

15 (1) Maintain California's leadership role in neuroscience
16 innovation.

17 (2) Develop a dynamic map of the human brain that provides
18 researchers, physicians, and engineers with the knowledge
19 necessary to develop new treatments and technologies that will
20 improve lives and reduce the costs of providing health care.

21 (3) Grow California's economy through the expansion of
22 California's high technology and biotechnology sectors.

23 (4) Train the next generation of scientists for the neuroscience
24 and engineering jobs of the future.

25 (b) The University of California is requested to utilize
26 California's unique collaborative research environment by
27 administering the Cal-BRAIN program consistent with all of the
28 following:

29 (1) Convening stakeholders from public and private research
30 institutions, biotechnology and high technology companies, and
31 venture capital firms to develop the governing structure of the
32 Cal-BRAIN program.

33 (2) Adopting a research plan that identifies milestones for
34 achieving the goals of the Cal-BRAIN program.

35 (3) Establishing competitive, merit-based opportunities for
36 interested public and private California research institutions to
37 apply for Cal-BRAIN program funding.

38 (4) Maintaining the flexibility to adjust the Cal-BRAIN
39 program's priorities and focus based upon knowledge gained from
40 scientific discoveries.

1 (5) Establishing a technology transfer program to identify and
2 accelerate the commercial application of both early and late-stage
3 discoveries and technologies from the Cal-BRAIN program into
4 the marketplace and to promote new and expanded technology
5 sectors in the state.

6 (6) Soliciting contributions to the Cal-BRAIN program with a
7 goal of achieving a nonstate funding match that meets or exceeds
8 the financial investment by the state.

9 92987. The Regents of the University of California are
10 requested to provide information about the Cal-BRAIN program
11 through an Internet Web site, including a brief description of
12 funded projects and activities.

13 92988. *This chapter shall be implemented only to the extent*
14 *that adequate funding for its purposes, as determined by the*
15 *Regents of the University of California, is appropriated to the*
16 *University of California in the annual Budget Act or other statute.*