

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 19, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 12, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 24, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 3, 2014

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1023**

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**Introduced by Senator Liu**  
**(Principal coauthor: Senator Steinberg)**  
**(Coauthors: Senators Correa, Galgiani, Hancock, Hueso, and**  
**Monning)**

*(Coauthor: Assembly Member Stone)*

February 14, 2014

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An act to add Article 7 (commencing with Section 79220) to Chapter 9 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1023, as amended, Liu. Community colleges: foster youth.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to operate campuses and provide instruction.

This bill would authorize the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to enter into agreements with up to 10 community college districts to provide additional funds for services in support of

postsecondary education for foster youth. The bill would provide that these services include, when appropriate, but are not necessarily limited to, outreach and recruitment, service coordination, counseling, book and supply grants, tutoring, independent living and financial literacy skills support, frequent in-person contact, career guidance, transfer counseling, child care and transportation assistance, and referrals to health services, mental health services, housing assistance, and other related services.

The bill would require a community college district that wishes to participate in this program to apply to the board of governors for funding under the program created by the bill, as specified. *The bill would require, if more than 10 community college districts apply for funding, the board of governors to give priority to those districts with the higher number of eligible students.* The bill would require that a participating student be a current or former foster youth in California whose dependency was established or continued by the court on or after the student's 16th birthday and be no older than 25 years of age at the commencement of any academic year in which he or she participates in the program.

The bill would express the intent of the Legislature that, consistent with specified requirements in the Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012, and to the extent that a participating community college meets specified responsibilities set forth in that act, any student who participates in the program established by this bill also receive specified matriculation services under that act.

The bill would require the board of governors to adopt regulations for the program and to be responsible for the administration of funds for the program, as specified. The bill would require the board of governors to submit a biennial report, commencing no later than March 31, 2018, and every 2 years thereafter, providing prescribed information about this program. *information, including recommendations on whether and how the program can be expanded to all community college districts and campuses.*

The bill would be operative in a fiscal year only if sufficient funds have been appropriated for purposes of the bill for that fiscal year.

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

3 (a) There are 57,000 children and youth in California’s foster  
4 care system who have been removed from their biological families  
5 due to maltreatment and placed into the care and custody of the  
6 State of California.

7 (b) The Legislature recognizes the historic underrepresentation  
8 of foster youth in postsecondary programs and the need for  
9 equitable efforts that enhance the enrollment and retention of foster  
10 youth in public colleges and universities in California.

11 (1) By 21 years of age, 45 percent of former foster youth will  
12 graduate from high school, as compared to 80 percent of  
13 Californians of the same age. By 26 years of age, 4.4 percent of  
14 foster youth will receive a two-year degree and 3.8 percent will  
15 earn a four-year degree, rates significantly below the same-age  
16 population in California.

17 (2) Low educational attainment is a factor in the poor adult  
18 outcomes experienced by youth in foster care. Compared to their  
19 same-age counterparts, former foster youth at 26 years of age are  
20 400 percent more likely to have been incarcerated and 300 percent  
21 more likely to be living below the federal poverty level.

22 (3) Current and former foster youth who attend community  
23 college experience a low rate of persistence, transfer, and degree  
24 completion. Only 41 percent of current and former foster youth in  
25 community college persisted at least one year as compared to 62  
26 percent of the general student population.

27 (c) The Legislature recognizes its responsibility to provide and  
28 adequately fund postsecondary programs and services for students  
29 who are current and former foster youth attending public  
30 postsecondary institutions.

31 (d) Therefore, it is necessary and appropriate to take steps to  
32 encourage the enrollment, retention, and transfer of current and  
33 former foster youth in California’s community colleges by  
34 establishing an education program that provides services that  
35 promote their academic success. Providing academic support to  
36 current and former foster youth in California’s community colleges  
37 serves a significant governmental and public interest, namely the

1 reduction in poverty and criminal justice involvement among youth  
2 who have been in foster care in California.

3 SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 79220) is added  
4 to Chapter 9 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education  
5 Code, to read:

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Article 7. Support Services for Foster Youth Attending  
Community College

10 79220. The Office of the Chancellor of the California  
11 Community Colleges may enter into agreements with up to 10  
12 community college districts to provide additional funds for services  
13 in support of postsecondary education for foster youth. This  
14 program shall be known as the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth  
15 Educational Support Program, and shall expand the number of  
16 students participating in the Community College Extended  
17 Opportunity Programs and Services and shall not displace other  
18 students. The funding provided pursuant to this article shall be  
19 separate and apart from the funding provided under existing  
20 cooperative agencies resources for education programs pursuant  
21 to Article 4 (commencing with Section 79150). In addition to the  
22 delivery of Student Success and Support Program services, as  
23 defined in Section 78212, services shall include, when appropriate,  
24 but not necessarily be limited to, outreach and recruitment, service  
25 coordination, counseling, book and supply grants, tutoring,  
26 independent living and financial literacy skills support, frequent  
27 in-person contact, career guidance, transfer counseling, child care  
28 and transportation assistance, and referrals to health services,  
29 mental health services, housing assistance, and other related  
30 services.

31 79221. (a) A community college district that wishes to  
32 participate in this program shall apply to the board of governors  
33 for funding pursuant to this article. The application of each  
34 participating community college district shall provide the estimated  
35 number of foster youth who will be served. The application shall  
36 also describe the extent of cooperation between the local county  
37 child welfare department, the county probation department, the  
38 local educational opportunity programs and services program, and  
39 the district to ensure that services provided under this article to

1 eligible youth are coordinated with, and do not supplant, other  
2 services provided by the county and state.

3 *(b) If more than 10 community college districts apply for funding*  
4 *under the program, the board of governors shall give priority to*  
5 *those districts with the higher number of eligible students.*

6 79222. A student participant in this program shall meet both  
7 of the following requirements:

8 (a) Be a current or former foster youth in California whose  
9 dependency was established or continued by the court on or after  
10 the youth's 16th birthday.

11 (b) Be no older than 25 years of age at the commencement of  
12 any academic year in which he or she participates in the program.

13 79223. The board of governors shall adopt regulations that  
14 authorize the director of the Community College Extended  
15 Opportunity Programs and Services at each community college to  
16 accept students who are enrolled for at least nine units into this  
17 program.

18 79224. It is the intent of the Legislature that, consistent with  
19 the requirements and intent outlined in subdivisions (b) and (c) of  
20 Section 78215, and to the extent that a participating community  
21 college meets the responsibilities outlined in paragraph (2) of  
22 subdivision (a) of Section 78212, any student who participates in  
23 the program pursuant to this article participate in the program of  
24 services outlined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section  
25 78212.

26 79225. The board of governors, in consultation with the State  
27 Department of Social Services, shall adopt regulations for the  
28 program. The board of governors shall be responsible for the  
29 administration of funds for the program. To the extent possible,  
30 the State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the  
31 County Welfare Directors Association of California, the Chief  
32 Probation Officers of California, and other advocates, shall consult  
33 with the chancellor's office to ensure that services provided under  
34 this article to eligible youths are coordinated with, and do not  
35 supplant, other services provided by the county and state.

36 79226. Notwithstanding Section 10231.5 of the Government  
37 Code, commencing March 31, 2018, and every two years thereafter,  
38 the board of governors shall submit a report to the Governor, the  
39 education policy committees of the Legislature, and the California  
40 Child Welfare Council describing its efforts to serve students who

1 are current and former foster youth. These biennial reports shall  
2 also include a review on a campus-by-campus basis of the  
3 enrollment, retention, transfer, and completion rates of foster youth,  
4 including categorical funding of those programs. *The reports shall*  
5 *also include recommendations on whether and how the program*  
6 *under this article can be expanded to all community college*  
7 *districts and campuses.*

8 79227. This article shall be operative in a fiscal year only if  
9 funds have been appropriated for purposes of this article for that  
10 fiscal year.

11 79228. The board of governors may authorize the chancellor,  
12 consistent with the requirements the board may impose, to  
13 designate up to 2 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this  
14 article for program administration.

15 79229. The board of governors may authorize the chancellor,  
16 consistent with the requirements the board may impose, to  
17 designate up to 3 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this  
18 article for program development and program accountability.