

Introduced by Senator LiuFebruary 19, 2014

An act to amend Section 69433 of the Education Code, relating to voter registration.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1105, as introduced, Liu. Voter registration: Cal Grant Program application.

Under existing law, operative when the Secretary of State certifies that the state has a statewide voter registration database that complies with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 or executes a declaration stating that certain conditions have occurred, a person who is qualified to register to vote and who has a valid California driver's license or state identification card is authorized to submit an affidavit of voter registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State.

Existing law establishes various student financial aid programs under the administration of the Student Aid Commission. Existing law requires the commission to authorize the use of standardized student financial aid application forms and requires these forms to be used for the Cal Grant Program and all other programs funded by the state or a public institution of postsecondary education.

This bill would require the standardized student financial aid application, if the application is submitted online, to permit the applicant to apply to register to vote online by submitting an affidavit of registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State.

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 69433 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 69433. (a) (1) A Cal Grant Program award shall be based
4 upon the financial need of the applicant, and shall not exceed the
5 calculated financial need for any individual applicant. The
6 minimum level of financial need of each applicant shall be
7 determined by the commission pursuant to Section 69432.9. The
8 commission may provide renewal awards.

9 (2) A student attending a nonpublic institution shall receive a
10 renewal award for tuition or fees, or both, in an amount not to
11 exceed the maximum allowable award amount that was in effect
12 in the year in which the student first received a new award.

13 (b) A Cal Grant award authorized pursuant to this chapter shall
14 be defined as a full-time equivalent grant. An award to a part-time
15 student shall be a fraction of a full-time grant, as determined by
16 the commission.

17 (c) (1) The commission shall prescribe the use of standardized
18 student financial aid applications for California. These applications
19 shall be simple in nature, and collect common data elements
20 required by the federal government and those elements needed to
21 meet the objectives of state-funded and institutional financial aid
22 programs. *If an application is submitted online, the application*
23 *shall permit the applicant to apply to register to vote online by*
24 *submitting an affidavit of voter registration electronically on the*
25 *Internet Web site of the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 2196*
26 *of the Elections Code.*

27 (2) The applications prescribed in paragraph (1) shall be ~~utilized~~
28 *used* for the Cal Grant Program, all other programs funded by the
29 state or a public institution of postsecondary education (except for
30 the Financial Assistance Program of the Board of Governors of
31 the California Community Colleges authorized by Chapter 1118
32 of the Statutes of 1987, for which a simplified application designed
33 for that sole purpose may be used), and all federal programs
34 administered by a public postsecondary education institution.

35 (3) Supplemental application information may be ~~utilized~~ *used*
36 if the information is essential to accomplishing the objectives of
37 individual programs. All supplemental application information
38 used for the purposes of commission-administered programs shall

1 be subject to approval by the commission, and applications shall
2 be identical for programs with similar objectives, as determined
3 by the commission.

4 (4) Public postsecondary institutions are encouraged to use, but
5 may decide whether to use, the standard applications for funds
6 provided by private donors.

7 (5) The Legislature finds and declares that it is in the best
8 interest of students that all postsecondary education institutions in
9 California participating in federal and state-funded financial aid
10 programs accept the standard applications prescribed by the
11 commission.

12 (d) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent an individual public
13 postsecondary institution from processing, with its own staff and
14 fiscal resources, the standard financial aid applications specified
15 in subdivision (c) for student aid programs for which it has legal
16 responsibility.

17 (e) The commission may enter into contracts with a public
18 agency or a private entity to improve the processing and
19 distribution of grants, fellowships, and loans through the use of
20 electronic networks and unified ~~data bases~~ *databases*.