

Introduced by Senator LaraFebruary 20, 2014

An act to add and repeal Article 3 (commencing with Section 32320) of Chapter 3 of Part 19 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code, relating to public schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1248, as introduced, Lara. Academic achievement gap: task force.

Existing law establishes the Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999 to, among other things, ensure that each child in California receives a high quality education consistent with all statewide content and performance standards, as specified.

This bill would require the State Department of Education to establish a blue ribbon task force on the achievement gap in California's public schools, to be comprised of 10 members appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the department, as specified. The bill would require the task force, on or before January 1, 2017, to report specified information to the Legislature and the department relating to closing the academic achievement gap between pupils of color and their peers. The bill would repeal those provisions on January 1, 2019.

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. Article 3 (commencing with Section 32320) is
- 2 added to Chapter 3 of Part 19 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the
- 3 Education Code, to read:

1 Article 3. Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Achievement Gap
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3 32320. (a) A blue ribbon task force on the achievement gap
4 in California’s public schools shall be established by the
5 department, to be comprised of 12 members appointed as follows:
6 (1) Four members shall be appointed by the Senate Committee
7 on Rules.
8 (2) Four members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
9 Assembly.
10 (3) Two members shall be appointed by the department.
11 (b) The task force shall issue a written report that contains
12 specific findings and recommendations relating to all of the
13 following:
14 (1) Closing the academic achievement gap between pupils of
15 color and their peers.
16 (2) Improving high school and graduation rates for pupils of
17 color.
18 (3) Evaluating the impact of common core academic content
19 standards on the academic performance of pupils of color.
20 (4) Addressing the college enrollment gaps between pupils of
21 color and their peers.
22 (c) (1) On or before January 1, 2017, the task force shall submit
23 a report to the Legislature and the department on the
24 recommendations developed pursuant to subdivision (b).
25 (2) The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section
26 9795 of the Government Code.
27 (d) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this
28 article is repealed on January 1, 2019.

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