

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2014

SENATE BILL

No. 1248

Introduced by Senator Lara

February 20, 2014

An act to add and repeal Article 3 (commencing with Section 32320) of to 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 amended, Lara. Academic-achievement gap: task force. *Achievement Gap Advisory Committee.*

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; provide for the establishment of the Academic Achievement Gap Advisory Committee as an advisory committee to the State Board of Education. The bill would require the committee to, among other things, monitor the implementation of the local control funding formula, common core academic content standards, and Academic Performance Index standards, as they relate to closing the achievement gap, as defined, for pupils of color. The bill would require the committee to be comprised of 10 to 12 members appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the department, State Department of Education, 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:

4
5 Article 3. ~~Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Academic~~
6 ~~Achievement Gap Advisory Committee~~
7

8 ~~32320. (a) A blue ribbon task force on the achievement gap~~
9 ~~in California's public schools shall be established by the~~
10 ~~department, to be comprised of 12 members appointed as follows:~~

11 ~~(1) Four members shall be appointed by the Senate Committee~~
12 ~~on Rules.~~

13 ~~(2) Four members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the~~
14 ~~Assembly.~~

15 ~~(3) Two members shall be appointed by the department.~~

16 ~~(b) The task force shall issue a written report that contains~~
17 ~~specific findings and recommendations relating to all of the~~
18 ~~following:~~

19 ~~(1) Closing the academic achievement gap between pupils of~~
20 ~~color and their peers.~~

21 ~~(2) Improving high school and graduation rates for pupils of~~
22 ~~color.~~

23 ~~(3) Evaluating the impact of common core academic content~~
24 ~~standards on the academic performance of pupils of color.~~

25 ~~(4) Addressing the college enrollment gaps between pupils of~~
26 ~~color and their peers.~~

27 ~~(e) (1) On or before January 1, 2017, the task force shall submit~~
28 ~~a report to the Legislature and the department on the~~
29 ~~recommendations developed pursuant to subdivision (b).~~

30 ~~(2) The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section~~
31 ~~9795 of the Government Code.~~

32 ~~(d) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this~~
33 ~~article is repealed on January 1, 2019.~~

1 32320. (a) *The Academic Achievement Gap Advisory*
2 *Committee shall be established by the state board to advise the*
3 *state board pursuant to this article. The committee shall be tasked*
4 *with all of the following:*

5 (1) *Monitoring the implementation of the local control funding*
6 *formula, common core academic content standards, and Academic*
7 *Performance Index standards, as they relate to closing the*
8 *achievement gap for pupils of color.*

9 (2) *Providing ongoing recommendations to the state board*
10 *regarding how and if school districts are making progress in*
11 *closing the achievement gap in their schools.*

12 (3) *Providing recommendations as to the best practices being*
13 *used by school districts to close the achievement gap in their*
14 *schools.*

15 (b) *The committee shall have access to local control and*
16 *accountability plan data and aggregate data on pupil achievement*
17 *for purposes of implementing the provisions of this article.*

18 32321. *The committee shall be comprised of 12 members*
19 *representing school boards, school administrators, educational*
20 *justice advocates, and policy experts, to be appointed as follows:*

21 (a) *Five members shall be appointed by the Senate Committee*
22 *on Rules.*

23 (b) *Five members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the*
24 *Assembly.*

25 (c) *Two members shall be appointed by the department.*

26 32322. *For purposes of this article, “achievement gap” means*
27 *the following:*

28 (a) *The gap between pupils of color and their peers in test*
29 *scores, enrollment in advanced placement courses, high school*
30 *completion rates, and enrollment in four-year colleges.*

31 (b) *The disparity between the academic performance of white*
32 *pupils and other ethnic groups, English learners and native English*
33 *speakers, and socioeconomically disadvantaged and*
34 *nondisadvantaged pupils.*