

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 907**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Burke**

February 26, 2015

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An act to *add Section 52334.7 to the Education Code*, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 907, as amended, Burke. Career training: adult students.

Existing law authorizes various career technical education programs, including regional occupational centers and programs, specialized secondary programs, partnership academies, and agricultural career technical education programs.

~~This bill would make legislative findings regarding education for adult students, and would state the Legislature's support for adult students' access to career training resources, including student financial aid.~~

*The bill would authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to certify, by name, each regional occupational center or program, county office of education, or adult education program, that provides a program of training to prepare adult students for employment in a recognized occupation, to legally authorize the center, program, or office to provide an educational program beyond secondary education, as specified.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-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) Career training for adults is an important part of workforce  
4 and economic development in California.

5     (b) Many of California's neediest adult students require financial  
6 aid to support their career training.

7     (c) Historically, those adult students have had access to federal  
8 financial aid under Title IV of the federal Elementary and  
9 Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.).

10    (d) Recent revisions in federal regulations governing Title IV  
11 of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
12 Sec. 6301 et seq.) have eliminated the eligibility for financial aid  
13 for adult students in many of California's career training programs  
14 operated by local educational agencies, even though adults in those  
15 programs have been historically eligible.

16    (e) The Legislature supports:

17     (1) Adult students' access to career training programs that will  
18 improve or expand their job skills and employability.

19     (2) Adult students' access to federal financial aid that may be  
20 used for career training programs and services.

21     (3) Providers of career training programs for adult students, as  
22 those providers work to satisfy federal requirements necessary to  
23 establish federal financial aid eligibility for those adult students.

24    SEC. 2. *Section 52334.7 is added to the Education Code, to*  
25 *read:*

26    52334.7. (a) *The Superintendent may certify, by name, any*  
27 *regional occupational center or program, county office of*  
28 *education, or adult education program, that provides a program*  
29 *of training to prepare adult students for gainful employment in a*  
30 *recognized occupation, to legally authorize the center, program,*  
31 *or office to provide an educational program beyond secondary*  
32 *education, including an education program that leads to a degree*  
33 *or certificate, for purposes of the center, program, or office*  
34 *participating in any student financial assistance program*  
35 *authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as*  
36 *amended.*

1     ***(b) A regional occupational center or program, county office***  
2     ***of education, or adult education program applying for certification***  
3     ***pursuant to subdivision (a) shall comply with both of the following:***

4         ***(1) Satisfy all applicable eligibility requirements specified in***  
5         ***federal rulemaking pursuant to Sections 600.6, 600.7, and 600.9***  
6         ***of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, other than the***  
7         ***authorization provided for in subdivision (a).***

8         ***(2) Apply in writing to the Superintendent, as an individual***  
9         ***center, program, or office, to be considered for certification***  
10        ***pursuant to subdivision (a).***

11     ***(c) Any person may file a complaint under the Uniform***  
12     ***Complaint Procedures, as set forth in Title 5 of the California***  
13     ***Code of Regulations, regarding an alleged violation by a local***  
14     ***agency of federal or state law or regulations governing adult***  
15     ***education programs or regional occupational centers and***  
16     ***programs, including allegations of unlawful discrimination,***  
17     ***harassment, intimidation, or bullying.***

18     ***(d) The Superintendent shall adopt regulations that authorize***  
19     ***any person to file a complaint under the Uniform Complaint***  
20     ***Procedures, as set forth in Title 5 of the California Code of***  
21     ***Regulations, regarding an alleged violation by a county office of***  
22     ***education of federal or state law or regulations governing that***  
23     ***county office's participation in any student financial assistance***  
24     ***program authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of***  
25     ***1965, as amended, including allegations of unlawful***  
26     ***discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.***