

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1145**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Medina**

February 27, 2015

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An act to amend Section 54715 of, and to add Section 54715.5 to, of the Education Code, relating to pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1145, as amended, Medina. Pupils: Early Commitment to College program.

Existing law establishes the Early Commitment to College program. Participation by pupils, school districts, colleges, and universities in the program is voluntary. A pupil scheduled to graduate from high school after 2017 is not allowed to participate. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is required, among other program duties, to designate the 30% of public schools that maintain any of grades 6 to 9, inclusive, with the highest proportion of low-income pupils, as defined, as College Opportunity Zones. A school that is designated as a College Opportunity Zone in a participating school district by the Superintendent is required to give all pupils enrolled in grades 6 to 9, inclusive, and their parents or guardians, the opportunity to sign a "Save Me a Spot in College" pledge developed by the Superintendent. Schools not designated as a College Opportunity Zone in a participating school district are required to give pupils who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals and are enrolled in grades 6 to 9, inclusive, and their parents or guardians, the opportunity to sign a "Save Me a Spot in College" pledge. Participating

school districts are required to provide college information and college preparation events inclusive of pupils who sign the pledge.

The program provides that a pupil who signs a pledge declares a commitment to prepare for college, finish high school, and enroll in college and commits, among other things, to meet all graduation requirements, take college preparatory coursework, complete and file a free application for federal student aid, and submit his or her grade point average to the Student Aid Commission by March 2 of his or her senior year. The program further provides that a pupil who signs the pledge and is certified by his or her school district as having fulfilled the requirements of the pledge receives, upon enrollment at a community college, a fee waiver under the fee waiver program of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges for 2 or more years of enrollment at a California community college.

Existing law requires the Superintendent to submit a report on the status of the program, including a recommendation to the Legislature on whether the program should be continued, on or before November 1, 2017. Existing law repeals the provisions establishing the program on January 1, 2019.

This bill would ~~instead require the Superintendent to submit specified data~~ *include additional specified information in its report to the Legislature relating to the program to the Legislative Analyst's Office on or before November 1, 2016. The Legislative Analyst's Office would then be required, on or before November 1, 2017, to submit to the Legislature a report including specified information and a recommendation on whether the program should be continued.* ~~program.~~ *The bill would require the Superintendent, on or before January 31, 2016, to inform certain policy committees of the Legislature of its plans for complying with these reporting requirements.*

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 54715 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 54715. (a) On or before November 1, ~~2016~~, 2017, the
- 4 Superintendent shall submit to the ~~Legislative Analyst's Office~~
- 5 ~~data relating to Legislature a report on the status of the program,~~
- 6 including, but not necessarily limited to, the following information:

(a)

(1) The number of school districts and pupils participating in the program.

(b)

(2) The number of participating pupils who fulfilled the requirements of the pledge pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54711.

(c)

(3) Any relevant outcome data reported by school districts to the Superintendent pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54711.

(4) *To the extent that the data is available, the rate of enrollment of pupils who took the pledge in university or other postsecondary educational programs.*

(5) *Any local or state factors contributing to the success or failure of the program.*

(6) *The level of technical expertise and guidance provided by the department to school districts participating in the program.*

(b) *As part of the report required pursuant to subdivision (a), the Superintendent shall provide a recommendation on whether the program should be continued.*

(c) *On or before January 31, 2016, the Superintendent shall inform the Assembly Committee on Education, the Assembly Committee on Higher Education, and the Senate Committee on Education of its plans for complying with the reporting requirements of subdivision (a).*

(d) *A report to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.*

~~SEC. 2. Section 54715.5 is added to the Education Code, to read:~~

~~54715.5. (a) On or before November 1, 2017, the Legislative Analyst's Office shall submit to the Legislature a report relating to the program. This report shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following information:~~

~~(1) The number of school districts and pupils participating in the program.~~

~~(2) The number of participating pupils who fulfilled the requirements of the pledge pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54711.~~

1     ~~(3) To the extent that the data is available, the rate of enrollment~~  
2     ~~of pupils who took the pledge in university or other postsecondary~~  
3     ~~educational programs.~~

4     ~~(4) Any local or state factors contributing to the success or~~  
5     ~~failure of the program.~~

6     ~~(5) Any relevant outcome data reported by school districts to~~  
7     ~~the Superintendent pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54711.~~

8     ~~(6) The level of technical expertise and guidance provided by~~  
9     ~~the Superintendent to school districts participating in the program.~~

10    ~~(b) As part of the report required by this section, the Legislative~~  
11    ~~Analyst's Office shall provide a recommendation on whether the~~  
12    ~~program should be continued.~~