

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 8, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 1, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1366

**Introduced by Assembly Member Lopez
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Bonta)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Cristina Garcia)**

February 27, 2015

An act to add Section 68130.6 to the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1366, as amended, Lopez. Public postsecondary education: Dream Resource Centers.

Existing law establishes the segments of the public postsecondary education system in the state, including the University of California administered by the Regents of the University of California, the California State University administered by the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law provides that a student, other than a nonimmigrant alien, as defined, who has attended high school in California for 3 or more years, who has graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent thereof, who has registered at or attends an accredited institution of higher education in California not earlier than the fall semester or quarter of the 2001–02 academic year, and who, if he or

she is an alien without lawful immigration status, has filed an affidavit, as specified, is exempt from paying nonresident tuition at the California Community Colleges and the California State University.

This bill would, commencing with the 2017–18 academic year, require the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and would request the University of California, to create Dream Resource Centers on their campuses, as specified, to assist certain students by streamlining access to all available financial aid and academic opportunities for those students. *The bill would authorize Dream Resource Centers to offer support services, including but not necessarily limited to, state and institutional financial aid assistance, academic counseling, peer support services, psychological counseling, referral services, and legal services.* The bill would require each campus of the California Community Colleges and the California State University that is not required to have a Dream Resource Center to ensure that it has a designated staff person who is knowledgeable in available financial aid, services, and academic opportunities for all students meeting specified requirements, including undocumented students. By requiring community colleges to create Dream Resource Centers, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would authorize the trustees, the board of governors, and the regents to seek and accept on behalf of the state any gift, bequest, devise, or donation whenever the gift and the terms and conditions thereof will aid in the creation and operation of Dream Resource Centers for their respective systems.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

1 (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to increase enrollment and
2 graduation rates among students meeting the requirements of
3 Assembly Bill 540 of the 2001–02 Regular Session (Firebaugh,
4 Ch. 814) by requiring the creation of Dream Resource Centers at
5 public institutions of higher education.

6 (b) It is estimated that each year approximately 65,000
7 undocumented students graduate from high schools, and while
8 California has been a leader in enacting innovative and bold laws
9 to provide opportunities for undocumented youth to attain higher
10 education, only 20 percent of these students attend college. Many
11 undocumented youth and their families are unaware of recent
12 policy changes, such as the enactment of Assembly Bill 540 of the
13 2001–02 Regular Session, the California Dream Act of 2011, and
14 the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), that
15 make college graduation more attainable. Currently, the majority
16 of college campuses do not have a centralized location that provides
17 specialized support services and resources for students meeting
18 the requirements of Assembly Bill 540 of the 2001–02 Regular
19 Session.

20 (c) The creation of Dream Resource Centers would save staff
21 time and resources by streamlining all available financial aid and
22 academic opportunities for students meeting the requirements of
23 Assembly Bill 540 of the 2001–02 Regular Session. These Dream
24 Resource Centers would seek to empower and create a safe and
25 welcoming environment for those students. These centers would
26 increase enrollment, transfer, and graduation rates among this
27 population.

28 (d) A number of college campuses have acknowledged the needs
29 and challenges of these students and have created Dream Resource
30 Centers. These include: the University of California, Los Angeles;
31 the University of California, Davis; the California State University,
32 Los Angeles; the California State University, Fullerton; and the
33 California State University, Northridge. These centers provide,
34 among other things, informational workshops, legal clinics,
35 information on programs available to undocumented immigrants,
36 and peer mentoring and support services to increase awareness of
37 existing programs and available resources, enhance professional
38 development, and increase employment opportunities.

39 SEC. 2. Section 68130.6 is added to the Education Code, to
40 read:

1 68130.6. (a) Commencing with the 2017–18 academic year,
2 the California Community Colleges and the California State
3 University shall, and the University of California is requested to,
4 create Dream Resource Centers on their campuses, as specified in
5 subdivision (b), to assist students meeting the requirements set
6 forth in Section 68130.5 by streamlining access to all available
7 financial aid and academic opportunities for those students.

8 (b) (1) (A) The California Community Colleges shall create
9 Dream Resource Centers on any campus that has at least 500
10 currently enrolled students meeting the requirements set forth in
11 Section 68130.5.

12 (B) Any campus of the California Community Colleges that has
13 less than 500 currently enrolled students meeting the requirements
14 set forth in Section 68130.5 shall ensure that it has a designated
15 staff person who is knowledgeable in available financial aid,
16 services, and academic opportunities for all students meeting the
17 requirements set forth in Section 68130.5, including undocumented
18 students. The Legislature encourages each of these campuses to
19 place this designated staff person in the campus' extended
20 opportunities programs and services office or financial aid office.

21 (2) (A) The California State University shall create Dream
22 Resource Centers on any campus where any of its local feeder
23 community colleges meets the requirement in subparagraph (A)
24 of paragraph (1).

25 (B) Any campus of the California State University where none
26 of its local feeder community colleges meet the requirement in
27 subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) shall ensure that it has a
28 designated staff person who is knowledgeable in available financial
29 aid, services, and academic opportunities for all students meeting
30 the requirements set forth in Section 68130.5, including
31 undocumented students. The Legislature encourages each of these
32 campuses to place this designated staff person in the campus'
33 extended opportunities programs and services office or financial
34 aid office.

35 (3) The University of California is requested to create Dream
36 Resource Centers on each of its campuses.

37 (c) *Dream Resource Centers may offer support services,*
38 *including, but not necessarily limited to, state and institutional*
39 *financial aid assistance, academic counseling, peer support*

1 *services, psychological counseling, referral services, and legal*
2 *services.*

3 ~~(e)~~

4 *(d)* (1) This section shall not be construed as requiring the
5 construction of a new or separate space for Dream Resource
6 Centers.

7 (2) Dream Resource Centers may be housed within existing
8 student service or academic centers.

9 ~~(e)~~

10 *(e)* Notwithstanding Section 11005 of the Government Code
11 and any other law requiring approval by a state officer of gifts,
12 bequests, devises, or donations, the Trustees of the California State
13 University, the Board of Governors of the California Community
14 Colleges, and the Regents of the University of California may seek
15 and accept on behalf of the state any gift, bequest, devise, or
16 donation whenever the gift and the terms and conditions thereof
17 will aid in the creation and operation of Dream Resource Centers
18 for their respective systems.

19 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
20 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
21 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
22 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
23 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.