

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 23, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 8, 2016

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 412**

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**Introduced by Senators Glazer and De León**

February 25, 2015

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An act to add Part 40.2 (commencing with Section 67430) to Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 412, as amended, Glazer. The California Promise.

Existing law establishes the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as 2 of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state.

This bill would establish the California Promise, which would require the trustees ~~and the board of governors~~ to establish a program that authorizes a campus of the California State University ~~and the California Community Colleges~~ to enter into a pledge with a student who satisfies specified criteria to support the student in obtaining ~~an associate degree within 2 academic years, or a baccalaureate degree within 4 academic years, or if the student is a community college transfer student, within two academic years, of the academic year of the student's~~ freshman admission. *admission, as defined.* The bill would require the trustees to submit a report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature that includes demographic information about students who participate in the program and a summary description of significant differences in implementation of the program by campus. The bill would

require the trustees ~~and the board of~~ governors to submit recommendations to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding potential financial incentives that can benefit students who participate in the program.

~~By imposing new duties on community college districts, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.~~

~~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~~*no*.

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

1 SECTION 1. Part 40.2 (commencing with Section 67430) is  
2 added to Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

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4 PART 40.2. THE CALIFORNIA PROMISE

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6 67430. This part shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
7 California Promise.

8 67431. For purposes of this part, the following terms have the  
9 following meanings:

10 (a) "Academic year of the student's freshman admission" means  
11 the first full academic year in which a person is a student at a  
12 campus of the California State ~~University or the California~~  
13 ~~Community Colleges.~~ *University.*

14 (b) "~~Board of governors~~" means the Board of Governors of the  
15 ~~California Community Colleges.~~

16 (c)

17 (d) "Trustees" means the Trustees of the California State  
18 University.

19 67432. The California Promise is hereby established to support  
20 students who enroll in the campuses of the California State  
21 University ~~and the California Community Colleges~~ in obtaining  
22 ~~associate degrees within two academic years, and baccalaureate~~

1 degrees within four academic years, ~~as applicable~~, or within two  
2 academic years for community college transfer students, of the  
3 academic year of the student’s freshman admission.

4 67433. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

5 (a) This part is needed to facilitate the availability and  
6 completion of coursework for degree programs offered by  
7 campuses of the California State University ~~and the California~~  
8 ~~Community Colleges~~ and to ensure that students enrolled in at  
9 these campuses are able to complete ~~associate degree programs~~  
10 ~~within two academic years~~, and baccalaureate degree programs  
11 within four academic years, ~~as applicable~~, or within two academic  
12 years for community college transfer students, of the academic  
13 year of the student’s freshman admission.

14 (b) A more concerted, statewide effort to create pathways to  
15 four-year graduation is needed at the California State University.  
16 For the 2010 cohort of full-time, first-time students at the California  
17 State University, 19 percent graduated within four academic years.  
18 According to the Legislative Analyst’s Office, the most recent  
19 nationally comparable data shows that the California State  
20 University’s overall four-year graduation rate was 16 percent in  
21 2011, below the national rate of 26 percent among similar public  
22 institutions.

23 (c) Impediments to graduating within four academic years  
24 include the failure of students to complete sufficient units per  
25 academic year and the lack of available high-demand courses.

26 (d) New approaches are critical for the future of higher education  
27 in California. Efforts have been ongoing, though sporadic, to  
28 improve postsecondary educational institution enrollment and  
29 graduation. These efforts will need to be intensified and made  
30 more broadly systemic.

31 (e) Students who graduate within four academic years save tens  
32 of thousands of dollars. In addition to the direct costs of extended  
33 college and university enrollment, students miss out on earnings  
34 in the workforce while they remain in school.

35 (f) When California experiences a decline in college and  
36 university graduates, the state’s economy shrinks and employers  
37 seek qualified candidates outside the state. Furthermore, a larger  
38 share of the state’s workforce is downgraded to lower-paying jobs  
39 and consumer behavior and home ownership declines, which leads  
40 to plummeting revenues for local and state government and to

1 more people relying on increasingly decimated government  
2 services.

3 (g) According to the Public Policy Institute of California, if bold  
4 measures are not taken, California will fall short of the state's  
5 economic demand by 1.1 million college and university graduates  
6 by 2030. An increased demand for highly educated workers will  
7 outweigh the number of qualified applicants for available jobs,  
8 which will be exacerbated when scores of highly educated baby  
9 boomers retire. The share of workers with a baccalaureate degree  
10 will be 33 percent in 2030, below the 38 percent that will be  
11 needed.

12 (h) The impact of graduation rates from California State  
13 University campuses is felt not only throughout the state, but also  
14 the nation. One out of every 10 California employees is a California  
15 State University graduate, while one out of every 20 United States  
16 citizens with a college or university degree graduates from a  
17 campus of the California State University. These statistics  
18 emphasize the national importance of graduation rates at California  
19 State University campuses.

20 (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California Promise  
21 will enable the California State University system to meet and  
22 exceed the national average of similar public postsecondary  
23 educational institutions as quickly as possible.

24 (j) The California Promise programs established at the California  
25 State University ~~and the California Community Colleges~~ in  
26 accordance with this part should aim to reflect the demographics  
27 of their respective campuses and target a diverse set of students.

28 67434. (a) ~~The trustees and the board of governors~~ shall  
29 develop and implement a California Promise program that complies  
30 with this part at 10 or more of their respective campuses.

31 (b) Commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year, ~~the trustees and~~  
32 ~~the board of governors~~ shall authorize each campus with a  
33 California Promise program pursuant to subdivision (a) to enter  
34 into a pledge with a qualifying student of the campus, including a  
35 community college transfer student, to support the student in  
36 ~~obtaining an associate degree within two academic years, or a~~  
37 ~~baccalaureate degree within four academic years, as applicable,~~  
38 *or if the student is a community college transfer student, within*  
39 *two academic years*, of the academic year of the student's freshman  
40 admission.

1 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision ~~(e)~~, (d),  
2 to be a qualifying student at the California State University, the  
3 student must comply with both of the following:

4 (1) Be a California resident for purposes of in-state tuition  
5 eligibility.

6 (2) Complete at least 30 semester units or the quarter equivalent  
7 per academic year. Units completed by the student during a summer  
8 term may count towards the previous or following academic year  
9 as determined by the trustees.

10 ~~(d) To be a qualifying student at a community college, the~~  
11 ~~student must comply with all of the following:~~

12 ~~(1) Be a California resident for purposes of in-state tuition~~  
13 ~~eligibility.~~

14 ~~(2) Complete at least 30 semester units or the quarter equivalent~~  
15 ~~per academic year. Units completed by the student during a summer~~  
16 ~~term may count towards the previous or following academic year~~  
17 ~~as determined by the board of governors.~~

18 ~~(3) Be enrolled in an associate degree for transfer program at a~~  
19 ~~community college.~~

20 ~~(4) Participate in the program of services outlined in paragraph~~  
21 ~~(2) of subdivision (a) of Section 78212, and any other regulatory~~  
22 ~~requirements adopted for implementation of the Student Success~~  
23 ~~and Support Program established in Article 1 (commencing with~~  
24 ~~Section 78210) of Chapter 2 of Part 48 of Division 7.~~

25 (e)

26 (d) (1) Each program established by the trustees at a California  
27 State University campus shall be reviewed by each campus'  
28 graduation initiative advisory committee or a committee designated  
29 with similar functions. The committee shall ensure the goals of  
30 the program and implementation steps lead to increasing the  
31 campus' four-year graduation rates for students who enrolled as  
32 first-time freshman and two-year graduation rates for community  
33 college transfer students.

34 (2) The committee at each campus may develop additional  
35 eligibility requirements to prioritize specific student populations  
36 that have lower four-year graduation rates at the campus for those  
37 who enroll as first-time freshman and lower two-year graduation  
38 rates for those who enroll as community college transfer students,  
39 including, but not limited to, all of the following student  
40 populations:

1 (A) Students who receive financial aid under the federal Pell  
2 Grant Program (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070a) or the Cal Grant Program  
3 established in Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Section 69430) of  
4 Part 42.

5 (B) Underrepresented students.

6 (C) First generation college students.

7 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California Promise  
8 program at each campus gradually scale up in order to  
9 accommodate as many students into the program as feasible.

10 ~~(f)~~

11 (e) Support provided by a California State University campus  
12 to a student who participates in the campus' California Promise  
13 program shall include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

14 (1) Priority registration in coursework.

15 (2) Academic advisement that includes monitoring the student's  
16 academic progress.

17 ~~(g) Support provided by a community college campus to a  
18 student who participates in the campus' California Promise  
19 program shall include those services outlined in paragraph (2) of  
20 subdivision (a) of Section 78212.~~

21 ~~(h)~~

22 (f) (1) The trustees ~~and the board of governors~~ shall develop  
23 application criteria, administrative guidelines, and additional  
24 requirements, including how campuses will measure student  
25 success, for purposes of implementing and administering the  
26 California Promise program.

27 (2) Requirements developed in accordance with paragraph (1)  
28 may include a requirement that a student who participates in a  
29 California Promise program maintain a minimum grade point  
30 average determined by the student's campus.

31 (3) In developing requirements for the California Promise  
32 program, the trustees ~~and the board of governors~~ shall take into  
33 consideration the report on graduation rates required pursuant to  
34 Item 6610-001-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2016.

35 ~~(i)~~

36 (g) (1) The trustees shall submit a report to the appropriate  
37 policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2021,  
38 that includes all of the following:

39 (A) The total number of students participating in the program  
40 disaggregated by individual campus and all of the following:

1 (i) Community college transfer students and students who enroll  
2 as first-time freshman.

3 (ii) First generation college students.

4 (iii) Recipients of financial aid under the federal Pell Grant  
5 Program (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070a) or the Cal Grant Program  
6 established in Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Section 69430) of  
7 Part 42.

8 (iv) Student ethnicity.

9 (B) The total number of students who graduated in four  
10 academic years for students who enrolled as first-time freshman  
11 and two academic years for community college transfer students,  
12 disaggregated by individual campus and the characteristics  
13 identified in clauses (i) to (iv), inclusive, or subparagraph (A).

14 (2) The trustees shall submit a report to the appropriate policy  
15 and fiscal committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2019, that  
16 includes the total number of the first cohort of community college  
17 transfer students participating in the program, disaggregated by  
18 individual campus and the characteristics listed in clauses (ii) to  
19 (iv), inclusive, of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).

20 (3) The reports required in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall include  
21 a summary description of significant differences regarding  
22 implementation of the California Promise program by campus,  
23 including, but not limited to, the prioritization of student  
24 populations pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision ~~(e)~~ (d) if  
25 applicable, the role of academic advising, and the implementation  
26 of priority registration.

27 ~~(j)~~

28 ~~(h)~~ The trustees ~~and the board of governors~~ shall submit  
29 recommendations to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees  
30 of the Legislature by March 15, 2017, regarding potential financial  
31 incentives that can benefit students who participate in the California  
32 Promise program, including, but not limited to, incentives for  
33 qualifying students who are unable to graduate within four or two  
34 academic years, as applicable, due to a lack of course offerings.

35 ~~(k)~~

36 (i) A student who ~~participates in the California Promise program~~  
37 ~~at a community college and who successfully completes his or her~~  
38 ~~associate degree for transfer within two academic years at a~~  
39 *community college* shall be guaranteed participation in the

1 California Promise program at the California State University  
2 transfer campus, if established.

3 ~~(h)~~

4 ~~(j)~~ The trustees ~~and the board of governors~~ shall make every  
5 effort to close the achievement gap and encourage broad  
6 participation in a California Promise program that reflects a  
7 participating campus' demographics.

8 ~~SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~  
9 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~  
10 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~  
11 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~  
12 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~