

Introduced by Senator Liu

February 25, 2015

An act relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 459, as introduced, Liu. State government: data.

Existing law establishes the Department of Technology within the Government Operations Agency, headed by the Director of Technology, who is required to advise the Governor on the strategic management of the state's information technology resources.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would require data collected from state and county agencies pursuant to existing mandatory reporting requirements to be shared among state agencies, would authorize state agencies to share data, between and among state agencies, county agencies, local education agencies, researchers, practitioners, and organizations serving youth and families, consistent with state and federal privacy and data protection laws, and would encourage these agencies to cooperate to utilize data and develop protocols for exchanging information safely and securely.

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

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

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

1 (1) California children are best served when programs and
2 services that support student achievement, health, and safety are
3 aligned to maximize the effective delivery of services.

4 (2) Data linkage strategies have been recognized at the federal
5 level as an effective approach to align services and to coordinate
6 efforts across multiple agencies.

7 (3) Data sharing must take place with a focus on effective
8 processes and procedures to protect the privacy of all Californians.

9 (4) Data sharing has enabled the state to save countless dollars
10 on inefficient programs, avoid duplication of services, and
11 effectively target programs and services.

12 (5) Effective data sharing across agencies with safeguards to
13 protect privacy and data integrity is also critical to identifying
14 evidence-based interventions with the greatest effectiveness for
15 specific populations to make the best use of scarce resources.

16 (6) California has enacted the Local Control Funding Formula
17 (LCFF) as a key equity strategy to prioritize funding towards
18 low-income students, English learners, and foster youth, and the
19 LCFF requires that these identified populations receive increased
20 services with funds allocated from the LCFF.

21 (7) The ability to determine the actual impacts on these specific
22 populations is crucial as an accountability mechanism to insure
23 that the LCFF dollars are in fact resulting in improved services
24 and outcomes.

25 (8) Targeted populations, including child-welfare-involved
26 children and low-income students, are served by multiple agencies
27 across various levels of government whose effectiveness of
28 coordination directly impacts the outcomes of these children.

29 (9) Coordinated data sharing integrates education, health, and
30 child welfare data across state and local agencies, while ensuring
31 privacy and fostering ongoing collaboration among researchers,
32 policy makers, agency administrators, and community leaders to
33 improve services for children and their families.

34 (10) Federal and state requirements already necessitate the
35 collection of data as a condition for ongoing funding, and
36 California should make effective use of the opportunity to connect
37 families to federal programs that provide needed supports to at-risk
38 populations to better ensure that California families receive their
39 fair share of federal programs supported by California taxpayers.

1 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that
2 would do all of the following:

3 (1) Authorize state agencies to share data between and among
4 state agencies, county agencies, local education agencies (LEAs),
5 researchers, practitioners, and organizations serving youth and
6 families, consistent with state and federal privacy and data
7 protection laws.

8 (2) Encourage state agencies to collaborate with county agencies,
9 LEAs, researchers, practitioners, organizations, and others outside
10 of state agencies who are working with youth and vulnerable
11 populations who can safely and securely utilize data in order to
12 make the best use of limited resources, take advantage of
13 opportunities to develop effective cross-agency collaboration, and
14 meet the needs of at-risk populations.

15 (3) Encourage the State Department of Education, the State
16 Department of Social Services, the State Department of Health
17 Care Services, county child welfare agencies, county health
18 agencies, county offices of education, and LEAs to develop
19 protocols to safely and securely facilitate the exchange of
20 information regarding services provided to youth, particularly
21 child-welfare-involved children, and low-income students, English
22 learners, and foster youth as specified in the LCFF.

23 (4) Require data collected from state and county agencies and
24 LEAs pursuant to existing mandatory reporting requirements to
25 be shared among state agencies to the fullest extent possible under
26 existing privacy laws, while ensuring the integrity of the data.