

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 5, 1998

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 521

Introduced by Assembly Member Lempert

February 24, 1997

~~An act relating to education technology. An act to add Section 70901.1 to the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 521, as amended, Lempert. ~~Education—technology~~
California Community Colleges: admissions.

Existing law requires the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to provide leadership and direction in the continuing development of the California Community Colleges as an integral and effective element in the structure of public higher education in the state. Existing law requires the governing board of a community college district to admit to the college any California resident, and may admit any nonresident, possessing a high school diploma or its equivalent.

This bill would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to adopt regulations that permit the governing board of a community college district to allow applications for admission to be submitted electronically.

~~Existing law establishes various programs for the introduction of education technology into the classroom;~~

~~including, among other programs, the Morgan Farr Quackenbush Education Technology Act of 1992, which has as its primary mission ensuring that the procurement and use of technology is clearly guided by the needs of pupils.~~

~~This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the financing of education technology in the public schools. The bill would express legislative intent to form a task force, consisting of representatives of educational agencies and representatives of private industry, to develop a strategy to address the legislative findings and declarations of the bill.~~

~~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
- 2 all of the following:
- 3 ~~(1) A sufficient funding mechanism has not been~~
- 4 *(1) Applications for admission to institutions of higher*
- 5 *education that are electronically submitted accomplish*
- 6 *all of the following:*
- 7 *(A) Make the admission process more accessible to*
- 8 *students.*
- 9 *(B) Reduce the duplication of efforts when a student*
- 10 *applies to more than one institution of higher education.*
- 11 *(C) Save paper.*
- 12 *(D) Simplify the preparation of applications by using*
- 13 *fill-in boxes.*
- 14 *(2) Both the University of California and the*
- 15 *California State University have demonstrated enormous*
- 16 *success with their online application process.*
- 17 *(3) The Association of Independent California*
- 18 *Colleges and Universities will begin online applications in*
- 19 *1998.*
- 20 *(4) Current regulations adopted by the Board of*
- 21 *Governors of the California Community Colleges*
- 22 *preclude the use of electronic applications for admission*
- 23 *to the California Community Colleges.*



1 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to
2 encourage the exploration and expansion of alternative
3 application processes for admission to community
4 colleges.

5 SEC. 2. Section 70901.1 is added to the Education
6 Code, to read:

7 70901.1. The Board of Governors of the California
8 Community Colleges shall adopt regulations that permit
9 the governing board of a community college district to
10 allow applications for admission to be submitted
11 electronically. The regulations shall require that
12 applicants be informed of the relative security of the
13 information they submit electronically.

14 ~~created to achieve an adequate ratio of computers to~~
15 ~~pupils in public schools. Financing strategies must~~
16 ~~include the use of donations from private foundations and~~
17 ~~community support.~~

18 ~~(2) The utilization of education technology is essential~~
19 ~~to prepare pupils for the work force of the 21st century.~~
20 ~~However, utilization of technology is more than word~~
21 ~~processing skills. It is the creative integration and~~
22 ~~development of technology in the school curriculum. The~~
23 ~~education of elementary and secondary pupils in the use~~
24 ~~of technology must have achievement standards or~~
25 ~~benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of any~~
26 ~~technology program.~~

27 ~~(3) Although the lack of technology in schools has been~~
28 ~~the topic of increasing debate, teachers and other school~~
29 ~~personnel who work with school children are not~~
30 ~~sufficiently trained or acclimated to the use of education~~
31 ~~technology in the classroom to adequately integrate~~
32 ~~available technology into the daily curricula. Any~~
33 ~~program of education technology must include staff~~
34 ~~development and teacher training. The schools must~~
35 ~~have a commitment to not just providing equipment but~~
36 ~~to developing a teaching staff that is educated, trained,~~
37 ~~and committed to bring schools into the information age.~~

38 ~~(4) A proactive group of representatives from all~~
39 ~~facets of education and technology must be assembled to~~
40 ~~develop a long term approach to fully integrating~~



1 ~~education technology into the educational system of this~~
2 ~~state. Planning must include innovative technology~~
3 ~~advancements including the availability of wireless~~
4 ~~communications.~~

5 ~~(b) To address these findings and declarations, it is the~~
6 ~~intent of the Legislature to form a task force, consisting~~
7 ~~of representatives of educational agencies, including the~~
8 ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of~~
9 ~~Education, and local educational agencies, and~~
10 ~~representatives of private industry, to develop a strategy~~
11 ~~to address each of the findings set forth in subdivision (a).~~

