

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 8, 1998  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 25, 1998  
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 20, 1998

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1692**

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**Introduced by Senator McPherson**

February 17, 1998

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An act relating to emergency services, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1692, as amended, McPherson. California Specialized Training Institute.

Existing law establishes the California Specialized Training Institute in the Office of Emergency Services to assist the Governor in providing training to state agencies, cities, and counties in their planning and preparation for disasters.

This bill would appropriate \$140,000 from the General Fund to the Office of Emergency Services for allocation to the California Specialized Training Institute to implement a pilot program for "distance learning" to offer certification, recertification, or renewal classes over the Internet as an alternative to traditional onsite courses. The bill would require the office to recover these funds and any other moneys that may be expended to develop and implement this program by charging a fee for participating in the program and to report *by June 30, 2000*, to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature concerning the pilot program.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The sum of one hundred forty  
2 thousand dollars (\$140,000) is hereby appropriated from  
3 the General Fund to the Office of Emergency Services for  
4 allocation to the California Specialized Training Institute  
5 to implement a pilot program for “distance learning” to  
6 offer certification, recertification, or renewal classes, or  
7 any combination of those classes, over the Internet as an  
8 alternative to traditional onsite courses.

9 (b) Funds appropriated to the office pursuant to  
10 subdivision (a) and any other funds that may be  
11 expended by the office to develop and implement the  
12 distance learning program shall be recovered by the  
13 office on behalf of the state through fees charged for  
14 distance learning, upon the implementation of a service  
15 charge for this program, over a period of five years.

16 (c) The purposes of the pilot program shall be the  
17 following:

18 (1) To reduce the cost to individuals taking courses  
19 through the California Specialized Training Institute.

20 (2) To reduce the cost to governmental entities,  
21 educational institutions, and businesses whose employees  
22 take classes through the institute.

23 (3) To increase the number of individuals involved in  
24 disaster management taking classes through the institute.

25 (d) The Office of Emergency Services shall develop a  
26 mechanism by which the value and success, if any, of the  
27 pilot program is quantified. The mechanism shall include  
28 specific numerical objectives that must be met or  
29 exceeded if the pilot program is to be judged successful,  
30 including any costs or savings and any change in  
31 enrollment above projected baseline amounts as a result  
32 of the pilot program.

33 (e) Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the  
34 Government Code, the Office of Emergency Services  
35 shall provide by *June 30, 2000*, a written report to the



1 appropriate policy committees of the Legislature  
2 concerning the value and success of the pilot program  
3 that includes information on whether or not the pilot  
4 program achieved the numerical objectives, and a  
5 recommendation as to whether the pilot program should  
6 be continued, discontinued, or expanded.

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