

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2141

Introduced by Assembly ~~Member Jones~~ *Members Jones and Berg*
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Koretz and Liu)

February 21, 2006

An act to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 124240) to Chapter 4 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to family planning.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2141, as amended, Jones. Family planning: Parent-Child Communication Assistance Program.

Under existing law, specified family planning services, administered by the Office of Family Planning within the State Department of Health Services, are provided to Medi-Cal recipients and certain other persons.

Existing law establishes various programs administered by the department relating to adolescent health.

This bill would establish the Parent-Child Communication Assistance Program within the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent *Health* Branch of the department, with the goal of decreasing teenage pregnancies through programs that equip parents, guardians, and parenting adults with the knowledge, understanding, and communication skills necessary to talk to their children about making responsible decisions regarding at-risk sexual behavior, *including*

unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. The bill would require that the program *provide funding for community-based programs, initiatives, or activities that focus on parents, guardians, and parenting adults of minor children at risk of becoming pregnant or impregnating someone, and would specify the funding priorities and certain provider qualifications for funding under the program.* It would provide for the program to be implemented to the extent that an appropriation for that purpose is made from state or federal funds.

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

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

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

3 (a) Research shows that ~~teenagers~~ *adolescents* who feel
 4 comfortable communicating openly ~~about sexuality~~ with their
 5 parents, their guardians, or other adult mentors *about sexuality*
 6 are more likely to delay sexual activity, are less likely to engage
 7 in risky sexual behavior, and are better equipped to have healthy
 8 relationships than other ~~teenagers~~ *adolescents*.

9 (b) The goal of the Parent-Child Communication Assistance
 10 Program is to decrease teenage pregnancies, sexually transmitted
 11 diseases, and sexual assault through programs that equip
 12 parenting adults with the knowledge, understanding, and
 13 communication skills necessary to talk with their children about
 14 sex and sexuality.

15 (c) Parenting adults often do not feel comfortable discussing
 16 sex with their children. Parents, guardians, and other parenting
 17 adults want to help their children make the best possible
 18 decisions regarding ~~what's best for them~~ *their health and safety,*
 19 *their values, and sexuality.* Honest and open communication
 20 *between parenting adults and their children* ~~not only~~ provides
 21 minors with the tools necessary for making responsible decisions;
 22 ~~but also helps protect them from sexual abuse and from~~
 23 ~~becoming sexual abusers.~~

24 (d) Parenting adults also need information regarding
 25 protecting their children from child internet predators and
 26 recognizing the danger signs involving strangers, adult friends,
 27 and relatives, peer pressure, and other circumstances involving

1 *sexual harassment and abuse, so they can effectively counsel*
2 *their children to avoid these dangers.*

3 SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 124240) is
4 added to Chapter 4 of Part 2 of Division 106 of the Health and
5 Safety Code, to read:

6
7 Article 3. Parent-Child Communication Assistance Program

8
9 124240. (a) The Parent-Child Communication Assistance
10 Program (*PCCAP*) shall be a continuing program within the
11 Maternal, Child, and Adolescent *Health* Branch of the
12 department, with the goal of decreasing teenage pregnancies
13 ~~through~~ *and sexually transmitted diseases by supporting*
14 programs that equip parents, guardians, and parenting adults with
15 the knowledge, understanding, and communication skills
16 necessary to talk to their children about *their sexual health,*
17 *including the prevention of unintended pregnancies and sexually*
18 *transmitted diseases, and making responsible decisions regarding*
19 *at-risk sexual behavior.*

20 (b) ~~The program shall~~ *provide funding for community-based*
21 *programs, initiatives, or activities that focus on parents,*
22 *guardians, and parenting adults of minor children at risk of*
23 *becoming pregnant or impregnating someone, in an effort to*
24 *provide the parents, guardians, and parenting adults with*
25 *effective tools for communicating with their children regarding*
26 *responsible behavior and sexual health, including the prevention*
27 *of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.*

28 (c) Participation in the program by a parent, guardian, or
29 parenting adult shall be on a voluntary basis only.

30 (d) Priority for funding under the ~~program~~ *PCCAP* shall be
31 given to public or private nonprofit *community-based*
32 organizations operating ~~any of the following types of programs:~~
33 *programs, initiatives, or activities that meet the following*
34 *criteria:*

35 (1) ~~Programs that target~~ *The program, initiative, or activity*
36 *targets* parents, guardians, and parenting adults in geographic
37 areas that have been found to be at high risk of teen pregnancy.

38 (2) ~~Programs for~~ *The program, initiative, or activity targets*
39 parents, guardians, and parenting adults of foster care youth.

1 (3) ~~Programs~~ *The program, initiative, or activity is designed to*
2 ~~assist provide~~ *parents, guardians, and parenting adults in with the*
3 *necessary tools for communicating effectively with minors*
4 *regarding their sexual health, including the prevention of*
5 *unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, and to*
6 *increase the minors' understanding of, and ability to act*
7 *responsibly regarding, their own sexuality and the social*
8 *pressures affecting them.*

9 (e) Grants shall be made available to qualified public or
10 private nonprofit ~~providers~~ *organizations*. The Maternal, Child,
11 and Adolescent *Health* Branch of the department shall establish
12 ~~provider~~ *qualifications for funding*, which shall include, but not
13 be limited to, each of the following:

14 (1) Demonstrated cultural sensitivity and competence *in*
15 *addressing the needs of the target population.*

16 (2) All factual information in the curriculum regarding human
17 sexuality, the prevention of unintended pregnancy, and sexually
18 transmitted infections shall be medically accurate and objective.

19 (3) Demonstrated ability to provide effective tools, skills, and
20 strategies for adult communication with minors regarding
21 sexuality.

22 (4) The provision of, or referral for, a comprehensive range of
23 services to meet the health, education, and welfare needs of
24 minors.

25 (5) The provision of a list of available resources in the
26 community.

27 (f) For purposes of this section, ~~parenting adult~~ *the following*
28 *definitions apply:*

29 (1) *“Parenting”* means an adult in a child rearing or mentoring
30 role, regardless of whether the adult is a relative of the minor.

31 (2) *“Medically accurate”* means *verified or supported by*
32 *research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and*
33 *published in peer review journals, where appropriate, and*
34 *recognized as accurate and objective by professional*
35 *organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant field,*
36 *including, but not limited to, the federal Centers for Disease*
37 *Control and Prevention, the American Public Health*
38 *Association, the Society for Adolescent Medicine, the American*
39 *Academy of Pediatrics, and the American College of*
40 *Obstetricians and Gynecologists.*

- 1 (g) This section shall be implemented to the extent that an
- 2 appropriation for that purpose is made from funds made available
- 3 by the federal government or the state, or by both.

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