

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 12, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 28, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 21, 2007

SENATE BILL

No. 946

Introduced by Senator Scott

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Brownley and Karnette)

February 23, 2007

An act to amend Section 60641 of, and to add ~~Sections 78213.5 and 78213.8 to~~, Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 99300) to Part 65 of Division 14 of Title 3 of, the Education Code, relating to ~~community colleges~~ postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 946, as amended, Scott. Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes those districts to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the Early Assessment Program (EAP), a collaborative effort established by the California State University to enable pupils to learn about their readiness for college-level English and mathematics before their senior year of high school. The bill would express legislative intent that the existing EAP be modified by expanding it to include the California Community Colleges. The bill would also express legislative

intent that the existing EAP student notification system, as currently operated by agreement between CSU and the State Department of Education, be modified to include specified requirements.

This bill would authorize community college districts to use the California Standards Test (CST) to provide diagnostic advice to prospective community college students participating in the EAP. As authorized by specified law, the individual results of the CST would be provided to the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, which would coordinate with community college districts that choose to voluntarily participate in the EAP. The bill would specify that certain provisions apply to those community college districts that choose to work directly with high school pupils who took the CST and choose to offer assistance to these pupils in strengthening their college readiness skills.

The bill would require that the individual results of the CST be released to, and may be used by, CSU to provide diagnostic advice to prospective CSU students participating in the EAP. The bill would prohibit CSU from using the individual results of the CST as a criterion for admission.

~~This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to, among other things, the rates at which students who enroll in community colleges as freshmen return for a 2nd year of college. The bill would express legislative intent that the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program, enacted by the bill, provide high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for transfer-level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allow high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate the skills of these pupils to a level commensurate with transfer-level English and mathematics.~~

~~The bill would establish the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program for 5 years, for the purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for transfer-level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate their skills to a level expected of first-time community college freshman students. The bill would require the program to be administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.~~

~~The bill would provide that community colleges, along with their feeder high schools, shall be eligible to participate in the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program. The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to select the~~

~~participating community colleges from districts applying to the program and agreeing to meet the requirements established for participation in the program. The bill would require the chancellor, in making these selections, to give priority to colleges from districts that are currently working with, or utilizing, Cal-PASS data. The bill would require the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, in coordination with specified stakeholders in the pilot program, to provide appropriate basic skills enrichment opportunities to students at schools participating in this pilot program who require additional academic preparation in grade 12 to become college ready. The bill would require the community colleges, to the extent possible, to rely on the work already completed by the California State University Early Assessment Program to minimize duplication and the cost of implementing the program. The bill would specify requirements to be met by participating community colleges.~~

~~The bill would require the board of governors, to the extent that funding is provided specifically for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or another statute, to provide a stipend to each participating community college. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature that this stipend, in conjunction with base funding received by the participating institutions, shall be adequate to cover all costs incurred by up to 25 community colleges and their respective feeder high schools under the program.~~

~~The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, from funds provided in the annual Budget Act for this purpose, to contract with an entity deemed by the chancellor to be reputable, independent, and competent to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The bill would require this entity to submit a final evaluation report, including answers to specified questions, to the Legislature, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor on or before December 1, 2013. The bill would require the Office of the Legislative Analyst to review the final report, and, on or before February 1, 2014, to make recommendations regarding whether the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program should be continued, modified, expanded, or discontinued.~~

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. Section 60641 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 60641. (a) The department shall ensure that school districts
4 comply with each of the following requirements:

5 (1) The achievement test designated pursuant to Section 60642
6 and the standards-based achievement test provided for in Section
7 60642.5 are scheduled to be administered to all pupils during the
8 period prescribed in subdivision (b) of Section 60640.

9 (2) The individual results of each pupil test administered
10 pursuant to Section 60640 shall be reported, in writing, to the
11 pupil's parent or guardian. The written report shall include a clear
12 explanation of the purpose of the test, the pupil's score, and its
13 intended use by the school district. This subdivision does not
14 require teachers or other school district personnel to prepare
15 individualized explanations of each pupil's test score.

16 (3) (A) The individual results of each pupil test administered
17 pursuant to Section 60640 shall also be reported to the pupil's
18 school and teachers. The school district shall include the pupil's
19 test results in his or her pupil records. However, except as provided
20 in this section, individual pupil test results may only be released
21 with the permission of either the pupil's parent or guardian if the
22 pupil is a minor, or the pupil if the pupil has reached the age of
23 majority or is emancipated.

24 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a pupil or his or her
25 parent or guardian may authorize the release of individual pupil
26 results to a postsecondary educational institution for the purpose
27 of credit, placement, *determination of readiness for college-level*
28 *coursework*, or admission.

29 (4) The districtwide, school-level, and grade-level results of the
30 STAR Program in each of the grades designated pursuant to Section
31 60640, but not the score or relative position of any individually
32 ascertainable pupil, shall be reported to the governing board of the
33 school district at a regularly scheduled meeting, and the
34 countywide, school-level, and grade-level results for classes and
35 programs under the jurisdiction of the county office of education
36 shall be similarly reported to the county board of education at a
37 regularly scheduled meeting.

1 (b) The publisher designated pursuant to Section 60642 and the
2 publisher of the standards-based achievement tests provided for
3 in Section 60642.5 shall make the individual pupil, grade, school,
4 school district, and state results available to the department
5 pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of Section 60643 by
6 August 8 of each year in which the achievement test is administered
7 for those schools for which the last day of test administration,
8 including makeup days, is on or before June 25. The department
9 shall make the grade, school, school district, and state results
10 available on the Internet by August 15 of each year in which the
11 achievement test is administered for those schools for which the
12 last day of test administration, including makeup days, is on or
13 before June 25.

14 (c) The department shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that
15 the results of the test for all pupils who take the test by June 25
16 are made available on the Internet by August 15, as set forth in
17 subdivision (b).

18 (d) The department shall ensure that a California Standards Test
19 ~~that~~ is augmented for the purpose of determining credit, placement,
20 ~~or admission~~ *readiness for college-level coursework* of a pupil in
21 a postsecondary educational institution *and shall* inform a pupil
22 in grade 11 that he or she may request that the results from that
23 assessment be released to a postsecondary educational institution.

24 *SEC. 2. Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 99300) is added*
25 *to Part 65 of Division 14 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:*

26
27 *CHAPTER 6. THE EARLY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM*

28
29 *99300. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that in 2004,*
30 *the California State University (CSU) established the Early*
31 *Assessment Program (EAP), a collaborative effort among the State*
32 *Board of Education, the State Department of Education, and CSU,*
33 *to enable pupils to learn about their readiness for college-level*
34 *English and mathematics before their senior year of high school.*
35 *It is the intent of the Legislature that the office of the Chancellor*
36 *of the California Community Colleges, the office of the Chancellor*
37 *of the California State University, the State Board of Education,*
38 *and the State Department of Education work together to modify*
39 *the existing EAP to expand it to include the California Community*
40 *Colleges (CCC) so that, beginning in the 2009–10 school year,*

1 high school juniors who are considering attending either system
 2 can take the EAP and receive information in the summer before
 3 their senior year concerning their preparation for college-level
 4 work at both CSU and CCC.

5 (1) It is also the intent of the Legislature that the existing EAP
 6 student notification system, as currently operated by agreement
 7 between CSU and the State Department of Education, be modified
 8 to do both of the following:

9 (A) Reassure pupils that they are eligible to attend a community
 10 college and that taking the EAP test has no bearing on their
 11 eligibility to attend a community college.

12 (B) Inform pupils of their readiness for college-level coursework
 13 in English or mathematics, or both, and recommend the next
 14 appropriate steps as they pertain to achieving success at a
 15 community college, similar to how CSU communicates with pupils
 16 who take the EAP test and are prospective CSU students.

17 (2) It is also the intent of the Legislature that the EAP be
 18 modified to include all of the following requirements:

19 (A) That the participating community college districts utilize
 20 the existing EAP secure data repository and clearinghouse for test
 21 score distribution of the California Standards Test (CST) and the
 22 CST as augmented pursuant to Section 60641.

23 (B) That the modified EAP not affect the statutory reporting
 24 requirements of the STAR Program, or increase the costs of either
 25 the STAR program or the State Department of Education.

26 (C) That the modified EAP be titled the “Early Assessment
 27 Program.”

28 99301. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 78213,
 29 the individual results of the California Standards Test (CST) and
 30 the CST as augmented pursuant to Section 60641 may be used by
 31 community college districts to provide diagnostic advice to
 32 prospective community college students participating in the EAP.

33 (b) (1) As authorized pursuant to subparagraph (B) of
 34 paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 60641, the individual
 35 results of the CST and the CST as augmented pursuant to Section
 36 60641 shall be provided to the office of the Chancellor of the
 37 California Community Colleges.

38 (2) The office of the Chancellor of the California Community
 39 Colleges shall coordinate with community college districts that
 40 choose to voluntarily participate in the EAP as follows, and, to

1 *the extent possible, shall accomplish all of the following activities*
2 *using existing resources:*

3 (A) *Encourage community college districts to choose to*
4 *voluntarily participate in the EAP and notify them of the*
5 *requirements of subdivision (c), including the requirements that*
6 *the standards utilized by CSU to assess readiness for college-level*
7 *English and mathematics courses, as expressed in the CST as*
8 *augmented by CSU, shall also be used for the purposes of the EAP.*

9 (B) *Coordinate the progress of the program, provide technical*
10 *assistance to participating community college districts pursuant*
11 *to subdivision (c) as needed, identify additional reporting and*
12 *program criteria as needed, and provide a report to the Legislature*
13 *and Governor on or before February 15, 2015, on the*
14 *implementation and results of the EAP for community college*
15 *students.*

16 (C) *Provide access to the individual test results of the CST and*
17 *the CST as augmented pursuant to Section 60641 to participating*
18 *community college districts.*

19 (c) *For those community college districts that choose to work*
20 *directly with high school pupils within their respective district*
21 *boundaries who took the CST as augmented pursuant to Section*
22 *60641, and choose to offer assistance to these pupils in*
23 *strengthening their college readiness skills, all of the following*
24 *provisions apply:*

25 (1) *The individual results of the CST and the CST as augmented*
26 *pursuant to Section 60641 shall be released by the office of the*
27 *Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, as authorized*
28 *pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a)*
29 *of Section 60641, to participating community college districts upon*
30 *their request for this information and may be used to provide*
31 *diagnostic advice to prospective community college students*
32 *participating in the EAP.*

33 (2) *Pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of*
34 *subdivision (b), the same standards utilized by CSU to assess*
35 *readiness shall also be used for purposes of this section.*

36 (3) *The augmented CST as developed pursuant to Section 60641,*
37 *and currently utilized by CSU for purposes of early assessment,*
38 *shall be used to assess the college readiness of pupils in the EAP.*

39 (4) *Participating community college districts are encouraged*
40 *to consult with the Academic Senate for the California Community*

1 *Colleges to work toward sequencing their precollegiate level*
2 *courses and transfer-level courses in English and mathematics to*
3 *the elementary and secondary education academic content*
4 *standards adopted pursuant to Section 60605.*

5 *(5) Participating community college districts shall identify an*
6 *EAP coordinator and shall coordinate with CSU campuses and*
7 *schools offering instruction in kindergarten and any of grades 1*
8 *to 12, inclusive, in their respective district boundaries on*
9 *EAP-related activities that assist pupils in making decisions that*
10 *increase their college readiness skills and likelihood of pursuing*
11 *a postsecondary education.*

12 *(6) In order to provide high school pupils with an indicator of*
13 *their college readiness, a community college district participating*
14 *in the EAP shall use individual test results provided to that college*
15 *pursuant to paragraph (1) of, and subparagraph (C) of paragraph*
16 *(2) of, subdivision (b) to provide diagnostic advice to prospective*
17 *community college students participating in the EAP.*

18 *(7) The individual results of the CST, as augmented by Section*
19 *60641 for purposes of the EAP, shall not be used by a community*
20 *college as a criterion for admission.*

21 *(8) Participating community college districts shall utilize the*
22 *existing infrastructure of academic opportunities, as developed*
23 *by CSU, to provide additional preparation in grade 12 for*
24 *prospective community college students participating in the EAP.*

25 *(d) Both of the following provisions apply to CSU:*

26 *(1) The individual results of the CST and the CST as augmented*
27 *pursuant to Section 60641, as authorized pursuant to subparagraph*
28 *(B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 60641, shall be*
29 *released to, and may be used by, CSU to provide diagnostic advice*
30 *to prospective CSU students participating in the EAP.*

31 *(2) The individual results of the CST, as augmented by Section*
32 *60641 for purposes of the EAP, shall not be used by CSU as a*
33 *criterion for admission.*

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**All matter deleted in this version of the bill
appears in the bill as amended in the
Assembly, June 28, 2007 (JR11)**

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