

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 14, 2008

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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 Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 99300) to Part 65 of Division 14 of Title 3 of, the Education Code, relating to 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) *and augmented 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 *and the augmented 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 *and the augmented CST* be released to, and ~~may be used in addition to any other purposes permit the use~~ by, CSU to provide diagnostic advice to, *or for the placement of* prospective CSU students participating in the EAP. The bill would prohibit CSU from using the individual results of the CST *and the augmented CST* as a criterion for admission.

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

1 require teachers or other school district personnel to prepare
2 individualized explanations of each pupil's test score.

3 (3) (A) The individual results of each pupil test administered
4 pursuant to Section 60640 shall also be reported to the pupil's
5 school and teachers. The school district shall include the pupil's
6 test results in his or her pupil records. However, except as provided
7 in this section, individual pupil test results may only be released
8 with the permission of either the pupil's parent or guardian if the
9 pupil is a minor, or the pupil if the pupil has reached the age of
10 majority or is emancipated.

11 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a pupil or his or her
12 parent or guardian may authorize the release of individual pupil
13 results to a postsecondary educational institution for the purpose
14 of credit, placement, determination of readiness for college-level
15 coursework, or admission.

16 (4) The districtwide, school-level, and grade-level results of the
17 STAR Program in each of the grades designated pursuant to Section
18 60640, but not the score or relative position of any individually
19 ascertainable pupil, shall be reported to the governing board of the
20 school district at a regularly scheduled meeting, and the
21 countywide, school-level, and grade-level results for classes and
22 programs under the jurisdiction of the county office of education
23 shall be similarly reported to the county board of education at a
24 regularly scheduled meeting.

25 (b) The publisher designated pursuant to Section 60642 and the
26 publisher of the standards-based achievement tests provided for
27 in Section 60642.5 shall make the individual pupil, grade, school,
28 school district, and state results available to the department
29 pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of Section 60643 by
30 August 8 of each year in which the achievement test is administered
31 for those schools for which the last day of test administration,
32 including makeup days, is on or before June 25. The department
33 shall make the grade, school, school district, and state results
34 available on the Internet by August 15 of each year in which the
35 achievement test is administered for those schools for which the
36 last day of test administration, including makeup days, is on or
37 before June 25.

38 (c) The department shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that
39 the results of the test for all pupils who take the test by June 25

1 are made available on the Internet by August 15, as set forth in
2 subdivision (b).

3 (d) The department shall ensure that a California Standards Test
4 *that* is augmented for the purpose of determining credit, placement,
5 or readiness for college-level coursework of a pupil in a
6 postsecondary educational institution ~~and shall~~ inform a pupil in
7 grade 11 that he or she may request that the results from that
8 assessment be released to a postsecondary educational institution.

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

11

12 CHAPTER 6. THE EARLY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

13

14 99300. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that in 2004, the
15 California State University (CSU) established the Early Assessment
16 Program (EAP), a collaborative effort among the State Board of
17 Education, the State Department of Education, and CSU, to enable
18 pupils to learn about their readiness for college-level English and
19 mathematics before their senior year of high school. It is the intent
20 of the Legislature that the office of the Chancellor of the California
21 Community Colleges, the office of the Chancellor of the California
22 State University, the State Board of Education, and the State
23 Department of Education work together to modify the existing
24 EAP to expand it to include the California Community Colleges
25 (CCC) so that, beginning in the 2009–10 school year, high school
26 juniors who are considering attending either system can take the
27 EAP and receive information in the summer before their senior
28 year concerning their preparation for college-level work at both
29 CSU and CCC.

30 ~~(1)~~

31 (b) It is also the intent of the Legislature that the existing EAP
32 student notification system, as currently operated by agreement
33 between CSU and the State Department of Education, be modified
34 to do both of the following:

35 ~~(A)~~

36 (1) Reassure pupils that they are eligible to attend a community
37 college and that taking the EAP test has no bearing on their
38 eligibility to attend a community college.

39 ~~(B)~~

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

6 ~~(2)~~

7 (c) It is also the intent of the Legislature that the EAP be
8 modified to include all of the following requirements:

9 (A)

10 (1) That the participating community college districts utilize
11 the existing EAP secure data repository and clearinghouse for test
12 score distribution of the California Standards Test (CST) and the
13 ~~CST as augmented pursuant to~~ *augmented CST, as referenced in*
14 *Section 60641.*

15 ~~(B)~~

16 (2) That the modified EAP not affect the statutory reporting
17 requirements of the STAR Program, or increase the costs of either
18 the STAR program or the State Department of Education.

19 ~~(C)~~

20 (3) That the modified EAP be titled the “Early Assessment
21 Program.”

22 99301. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 78213,
23 the individual results of the California Standards Test (CST) and
24 ~~the CST as augmented pursuant to Section 60641 may be used by~~
25 *the augmented CST, as referenced in Section 60641, in addition*
26 *to any other purposes may be used by* community college districts
27 to provide diagnostic advice to, *or for the placement of*, prospective
28 community college students participating in the EAP.

29 (b) (1) As authorized pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph
30 (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 60641, the individual results of
31 the CST and the ~~CST as augmented pursuant to~~ *augmented CST,*
32 *as referenced in* Section 60641, shall be provided to the office of
33 the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

34 (2) The office of the Chancellor of the California Community
35 Colleges shall coordinate with community college districts that
36 choose to voluntarily participate in the EAP as follows, and, to the
37 extent possible, shall accomplish all of the following activities
38 using existing resources:

39 (A) Encourage community college districts to choose to
40 voluntarily participate in the EAP and notify them of the

1 requirements of subdivision (c), including the requirements that
2 the standards utilized by CSU to assess readiness for college-level
3 English and mathematics courses, as expressed in the CST as
4 augmented by CSU, shall also be used for the purposes of the EAP.

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

12 (C) Provide access to the individual test results of the CST and
13 ~~the CST as augmented pursuant to Section 60641 to participating~~
14 *the augmented CST, as referenced in Section 60641, to*
15 *participating* community college districts.

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

22 (1) The individual results of the CST and the ~~CST as augmented~~
23 ~~pursuant to Section 60641~~ *augmented CST, as referenced in Section*
24 *60641*, shall be released by the office of the Chancellor of the
25 California Community Colleges, as authorized pursuant to
26 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section
27 60641, to participating community college districts upon their
28 request for this information and may be used to provide diagnostic
29 advice to prospective community college students participating in
30 the EAP.

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

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

38 (4) Participating community college districts are encouraged to
39 consult with the Academic Senate for the California Community
40 Colleges to work toward sequencing their precollegiate level

1 courses and transfer-level courses in English and mathematics to
2 the elementary and secondary education academic content standards
3 adopted pursuant to Section 60605.

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

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

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

21 (8) Participating community college districts shall utilize the
22 existing infrastructure of academic opportunities, as developed by
23 CSU, to provide additional preparation in grade 12 for prospective
24 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~~ *augmented CST, as referenced in* Section 60641, as
28 authorized pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of
29 subdivision (a) of Section 60641, shall be released to, and *in*
30 *addition to any other purposes* may be used by, CSU to provide
31 diagnostic advice to, *or for the placement of* prospective CSU
32 students participating in the EAP.

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