

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 127

Introduced by Assembly Member Jeffries

January 16, 2009

An act to add Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 3116) to, and to repeal and add Article 2 (commencing with Section 3113) of, Chapter 8.5 of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code, relating to volunteer service.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 127, as introduced, Jeffries. Volunteer service: Office of California Volunteers and California Volunteers Commission.

Existing law establishes the Office for Citizen Initiative and Voluntary Action within the office of the Governor.

This bill would repeal the statutes establishing the Office for Citizen Initiative and Voluntary Action within the office of the Governor, and instead enact provisions establishing the Office of California Volunteers within the office of the Governor, specifying the duties and responsibilities of the office, and setting out the appointment scheme for the office.

The bill also would establish the California Volunteers Commission, which would serve as California's "State Commission" for purposes of the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 and its implementing rules and regulations. The bill would provide for the composition of the commission, that the members would serve without compensation, and that the First Lady of California or First Gentleman of California would serve as the Honorary Chairperson of the commission. The bill also would provide that no more than 50% of the commission, plus one member, shall be from the same political party.

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. Article 2 (commencing with Section 3113) of
2 Chapter 8.5 of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code is
3 repealed.

4 SEC. 2. Article 2 (commencing with Section 3113) is added
5 to Chapter 8.5 of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code,
6 to read:

7
8 Article 2. Office of California Volunteers
9

10 3113. (a) There is in the office of the Governor an Office of
11 California Volunteers to recruit and mobilize California residents
12 for volunteer service.

13 (b) "Office" as used in this article means the Office of California
14 Volunteers.

15 3114. Consistent with federal and state law, the duties and
16 responsibilities of the office shall include, but not be limited to,
17 the following:

18 (a) Recruiting and mobilizing California residents for volunteer
19 service by identifying service opportunities throughout the state
20 and by recognizing residents for the contributions they make as
21 volunteers and participants in public service programs.

22 (b) Serving as the state's lead agency for community service
23 and volunteerism, informing the public of the value of and need
24 for greater community service and volunteerism in California,
25 calling upon all Californians to become involved, and challenging
26 public and private institutions to create and support community
27 service and volunteer opportunities.

28 (c) Partnering with other public agencies at the state, county,
29 and local levels, and the private and nonprofit sectors to leverage
30 greater resources and create more opportunities for service and
31 volunteerism.

32 3115. The executive director, deputy director, and other staff
33 of the office shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve
34 at the pleasure of the Governor.

1 SEC. 3. Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 3116) is added
2 to Chapter 8.5 of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code,
3 to read:

4
5 Article 2.5. California Volunteers Commission
6

7 3116. (a) There is established in state government the
8 California Volunteers Commission that shall serve as California's
9 "State Commission" for purposes of the National and Community
10 Service Trust Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12501 et seq.) and its
11 implementing rules and regulations.

12 (b) "Commission" as used in this article means the California
13 Volunteers Commission.

14 3117. (a) In keeping with the requirements of the National
15 Community Service Trust Act of 1993, the commission shall
16 include the following individuals as voting members:

17 (1) An individual with expertise in the educational, training,
18 and development needs of youth, particularly disadvantaged youth.

19 (2) An individual with expertise in promoting the involvement
20 of older adults in service and volunteerism.

21 (3) A representative of community-based agencies or
22 organizations within the state.

23 (4) The Superintendent of Public Instruction.

24 (5) A representative of local government.

25 (6) A representative of local labor organizations.

26 (7) A representative of business.

27 (8) An individual between 16 and 25 years of age who is a
28 participant or supervisor of a service program for school-aged
29 youth, or of a campus-based or national service program.

30 (9) A representative of a qualifying national service program.

31 (b) Voting members of the commission shall serve at the
32 pleasure of the Governor for terms of three years and are eligible
33 for reappointment.

34 (c) The Governor may appoint to the commission other voting
35 or ex officio, nonvoting members, subject to the limitation that the
36 total membership of the commission shall not exceed 25 members.

37 (d) The spouse of the Governor, also known as the First Lady
38 of California or the First Gentleman of California, shall serve as
39 Honorary Chairperson of the commission. In this capacity, the
40 First Lady or First Gentleman, with the assistance of her or his

1 office, shall lead a broad range of service and citizen initiatives
2 that develop and strengthen the human, cultural, and natural
3 resources of the state.

4 (e) The First Lady or First Gentleman and commission members
5 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for travel
6 expenses and receive a per diem as appropriate.

7 (f) No more than 50 percent of the commission, plus one
8 member, shall be from the same political party, as required by
9 federal law.