

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 25, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 15, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1223**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Block**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wiggins)

February 27, 2009

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An act to add Section 44257.3 to the Education Code, relating to linked learning.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1223, as amended, Block. Linked learning.

Existing law authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue various types of teaching credentials and authorizations. Existing law establishes multiple pathway programs, which are multiyear comprehensive high school programs of integrated academic and technical study that are organized around a broad theme, interest area, or industry sector. Multiple pathway programs are comprised, among other things, of an integrated core curriculum that meets the eligibility requirements for admission to the University of California and the California State University and is delivered through project-based learning and other engaging instructional strategies that intentionally bring real-world context and relevance to the curriculum where broad themes, interest areas, and career technical education are emphasized.

This bill would define "linked learning programs," and would ~~encourage~~ *authorize* the commission to convene a workgroup consisting of specified members to develop program standards for the issuance of

a recognition of study, as defined, for linked learning competence for holders of a single subject teaching credential who will be teaching pupils enrolled in linked learning programs, as specified. The bill would authorize the commission to work with the Superintendent of Public Instruction to gather and post, on an appropriate Internet Web site, best practices from school districts and schools on curriculum development and professional development relating to implementing and sustaining multiple pathway programs.

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) California’s economy is reliant upon a continually growing
- 4 skilled and educated workforce.
- 5 (b) California needs to increase its pupils’ mastery of subject
- 6 matters, and to improve its high school graduation and
- 7 postsecondary education attainment rates.
- 8 (c) Secondary education needs to engage pupils while
- 9 simultaneously preparing them for real choices after high school.
- 10 (d) There is inherent educational value in both academic and
- 11 career technical coursework, and both should be promoted. When
- 12 linked and delivered in ways that mutually reinforce one another,
- 13 both academic and career technical courses are strengthened.
- 14 (e) All pupils should have equal access to schools and programs
- 15 that offer linked coursework. Pupils need a range of educational
- 16 experiences to prepare them for success beyond high school.
- 17 (f) A foundation of academic knowledge, general workplace
- 18 competencies, and occupationally specific knowledge and skills
- 19 enable pupils to better access all postsecondary options.
- 20 (g) Most pupils achieve better subject mastery and technological
- 21 skills when they are enrolled in courses that use hands-on
- 22 experiential learning to exemplify how academic knowledge is
- 23 used to solve real-world and industry-based problems.
- 24 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature that all of the following
- 25 occur:

1 (1) High school courses provide pupils with linked learning  
2 experiences that will prepare them for the full range of  
3 postsecondary success.

4 (2) Teachers employ pedagogical strategies that will ensure  
5 pupil success in linked learning educational programs.

6 (3) The state seeks to increase the number of teachers to provide  
7 quality programs that link subject matter knowledge with career  
8 technical knowledge and experience.

9 SEC. 2. Section 44257.3 is added to the Education Code, to  
10 read:

11 44257.3. (a) For purposes of this section, the following  
12 definitions apply:

13 (1) "Recognition of study" is a statement added to a credential  
14 recognizing that the credentialholder has completed a  
15 commission-approved course of study in the subject area listed.

16 (2) "Linked learning programs" are programs and pathways  
17 described in Section 52372.5 and may include, but are not limited  
18 to, California partnership academies.

19 (b) ~~The commission is encouraged to~~ *may* convene a workgroup  
20 to develop program standards for the issuance of a recognition of  
21 study for linked learning competence for holders of a single subject  
22 teaching credential who will be teaching pupils enrolled in linked  
23 learning programs pursuant to Section 52372.5.

24 (c) Members of the workgroup shall include, but are not limited  
25 to, representatives from:

26 (1) The department.

27 (2) Approved university teacher preparation programs, including  
28 at least one representative from the San Diego State University.

29 (3) The business community, including representatives from  
30 local chambers of commerce.

31 (4) Schools and school districts that have implemented multiple  
32 pathway programs or similar programs, including California  
33 partnership academies.

34 (5) Other organizations as deemed appropriate by the  
35 commission.

36 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature that a successful candidate  
37 for a recognition of study developed pursuant to subdivision (b)  
38 demonstrate appropriate knowledge, as decided upon by the  
39 workgroup convened pursuant to subdivision (b). This knowledge

1 may include, but is not limited to, an understanding of the  
2 following:

3 (1) Industry and postsecondary educational partnerships.

4 (2) Ongoing professional learning, including industry-specific  
5 orientation.

6 (3) Work-based learning approaches.

7 (4) Career exposure and development.

8 (5) Interdisciplinary problem- and project-based structure and  
9 content.

10 (6) State academic and career technical education standards.

11 (7) The Partnership for 21st Century Skills' Framework for 21st  
12 Century Learning.

13 (8) Industry-based applications.

14 (9) A pupil-centered teaching approach.

15 (10) An emphasis on integrated problem- and project-based  
16 learning.

17 (e) With respect to any recognition of study issued pursuant to  
18 subdivision (b), the California State University and other teacher  
19 preparation institutions are encouraged to establish goals for  
20 increasing the number of teachers prepared through linked learning  
21 programs.

22 (f) The Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment program  
23 is encouraged to provide resources to teachers that support  
24 professional development opportunities relating to linked learning,  
25 which may include, but are not limited to, providing teachers with  
26 externships.

27 (g) The commission may work with the Superintendent to gather  
28 and post, on an appropriate Internet Web site, best practices from  
29 school districts and schools on curriculum development and  
30 professional development relating to implementing and sustaining  
31 multiple pathway programs.