

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 4, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 119

Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi
(Principal coauthor: Senator Lieu)

March 6, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 119—Relative to the California Community Colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 119, as amended, Muratsuchi. Community colleges: career technical education.

This measure would encourage the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with affected stakeholders, to develop options to address the long-term funding needs of career technical education and other workforce and training programs at the campuses of the California Community Colleges, and to submit those options to the Legislature before ~~June~~ April 1, 2015, so it may address these funding concerns during its 2015–16 Regular Session.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The California Community Colleges comprises
- 2 the nation's largest system of higher education with 112 colleges
- 3 that serve more than 2.3 million students each academic year; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The community colleges play an important role in
- 5 boosting our state's economy and providing students with the

1 education, training, and skills necessary to keep our state and nation
2 globally competitive; and

3 WHEREAS, The community colleges offer a broad array of
4 career-oriented courses, certificates, and associate degrees through
5 career technical education (CTE) and other workforce and training
6 programs; and

7 WHEREAS, Recent high school graduates, underemployed and
8 unemployed adults, incumbent workers searching for career
9 advancement, veterans, and college graduates seeking retraining
10 can all benefit from CTE and other workforce and training
11 programs; and

12 WHEREAS, A college degree or industry-recognized certificate
13 is the principal pathway to personal economic security; and

14 WHEREAS, After several years of budget cuts during the
15 recession, California community college, CTE, and other workforce
16 and training course offerings have been reduced; and

17 WHEREAS, California has seen cutbacks of more than \$500
18 million in programs that prepare individuals for employment; and

19 WHEREAS, CTE and other workforce and training programs
20 are often expensive due to the need for smaller class sizes and
21 specialized equipment and facilities; and

22 WHEREAS, Prioritizing existing CTE and other workforce and
23 training resources in major regional industry sectors may help
24 close the skills gap in our state's labor force; and

25 WHEREAS, CTE and *other* workforce and training programs
26 in the California Community Colleges lack adequate long-term
27 funding to meet the needs of today's growing economy; and

28 WHEREAS, Any change to funding for CTE and other
29 workforce and training programs at the California Community
30 Colleges requires the enactment of legislation; now, therefore, be
31 it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature encourages the Chancellor
34 of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with
35 affected stakeholders, including, but not limited to, experts in the
36 field of CTE, business and industry representatives, faculty, and
37 organized labor representatives to develop at least three options
38 to address the long-term funding needs of CTE and other workforce
39 and training programs at the campuses of the California
40 Community Colleges, in a manner that adequately funds the

1 programs that regions deem valuable to their economies, and to
2 submit those options to the Legislature before ~~June~~ *April* 1, 2015;
3 and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That it is the intent of the Legislature during the
5 2015–16 Regular Session to address the long-term funding needs
6 of CTE and other workforce and training programs at the campuses
7 of the California Community Colleges; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
9 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.