

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2178

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

February 20, 2014

An act relating to pupil instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2178, as introduced, Levine. Pupil instruction: blending learning programs.

Existing law establishes an adopted course of study for pupils in grades 1 to 6, inclusive, and in grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would encourage greater innovation and expansion of blended learning models by removing barriers to innovation and accommodating new structures of operations that recognize the unique circumstances and challenges of effective blended learning programs. The bill also would make various findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) Significant educational innovations are occurring throughout
- 4 the state in the emerging area of blended learning.
- 5 (2) School districts, county offices of education, and charter
- 6 schools are offering a blended approach that integrates more
- 7 effective in-person instructional strategies with access to

1 technology-enabled learning opportunities inside and outside of
2 traditional classrooms.

3 (3) Early results are showing that a blended learning
4 environment can improve pupil achievement, particularly for those
5 pupils with the greatest needs.

6 (4) These programs, however, are not well-supported by the
7 existing statutory and regulatory structure that was designed for
8 programs to operate either as fully traditional seat-time or fully
9 independent study.

10 (5) Constraints placed on blended learning programs limit their
11 ability to further innovate and better serve the highest-need pupils.

12 (6) Changes are needed to ensure both school districts and
13 charter schools may expand innovation of blended learning models.

14 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that
15 would encourage greater innovation and expansion of blended
16 learning models by removing barriers to innovation and
17 accommodating new structures of operations that recognize the
18 unique circumstances and challenges of effective blended learning
19 programs.