

Introduced by Senator Vasconcellos

February 4, 1999

An act to add Sections 48645.8 and 51220.6 to the Education Code, and to add Sections 885.5, 896.5, 1122.5, and 1857.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to parenting.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 305, as introduced, Vasconcellos. Parenting education.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to maintain a program of maternal and child health.

This bill would require the department to convene a summit no later than March 31, 2000, to develop a master plan for parenting education in nonschool settings. The bill would require the various state departments to participate in the summit and collect, complete, and submit to the summit research available regarding the causal relationship between the presence or absence of parenting skills and dysfunctional behavior. The department shall submit a proposed master plan for parenting education based upon the recommendations of the summit to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2001.

Existing law authorizes the county board of education to provide for the administration and operation of juvenile court schools either by the county superintendent of schools or by contract with respective governing boards of the schools in which the juvenile court school is located.

This bill would require a juvenile court school to provide to each pupil who is at least 12 years old a course in parenting education.

Existing law requires the governing board of each school district that maintains a junior or senior high school to adopt standards of proficiency in basic skills for pupils attending school within its school district. Existing law sets forth the required courses of study in grades 7 to 12. Existing law requires that the course of study for grade 7 or 8 include course content in parenting skills and education.

This bill would require, commencing in the 2000–01 school year, a school district to ensure that all pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, or the equivalent thereof, receive parenting education from adequately trained instructors in appropriate courses. This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2004, the State Department of Education to submit to the Legislature an evaluation of the parenting education required by this provision.

Existing law requires the Board of Corrections to adopt and prescribe the minimum standards of programs of education and training for juvenile homes, ranches, camps, or forestry camps. Existing law also requires the board to adopt and prescribe the minimum standards of programs of education and training for regional youth educational facilities and youth correctional centers. Existing law establishes within the Department of the Youth Authority a correctional education authority to carry out the education and training of wards committed to the authority.

This bill would require the board and the Department of the Youth Authority to ensure that the above described facilities provide to each ward committed to the facility a course in parenting education.

This bill would impose a state-mandated local program by requiring the schools to which it applies to provide to certain pupils a course in parenting education.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.



This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature in
2 enacting this act that the state design and implement a
3 comprehensive parenting education plan that would
4 foster the development of healthier parents, families,
5 children, and adults.

6 (b) The Director of Health Services shall convene a
7 summit no later than March 31, 2000, for the purpose of
8 developing a master plan for parenting education in
9 nonschool settings. The master plan shall especially
10 accommodate those persons who are no longer attending
11 school in the year 2000.

12 (c) The summit shall include interested parties of all
13 ideologies and persuasions, legislative experts in
14 parenting issues, representatives of current providers,
15 academic experts, business leaders, family and child
16 development experts, health professionals, and experts in
17 public school parenting education programs.

18 (d) The director, or his or her designee, of each of the
19 departments listed in subdivision (e) shall participate in
20 the summit. To the extent that his or her department has
21 jurisdiction, each director shall collect, complete, and
22 submit to the summit the best research available
23 regarding the causal relationship between good and
24 healthy parenting, or lack thereof, to dysfunctional
25 behavior. The research submitted to the summit shall also
26 address the public costs that results from dysfunctional
27 behavior.

28 (e) The director, or his or her designee, of the
29 following departments shall participate in the summit as
30 provided in subdivision (d):

31 (1) Department of Corrections.

1 (2) Department of the Youth Authority.

2 (3) State Department of Social Services.

3 (4) State Department of Mental Health.

4 (5) State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.

5 (6) Superintendent of Public Instruction.

6 (f) The objectives of the summit shall include, but not
7 be limited to, the following:

8 (1) Development of an inventory of all parenting
9 education programs currently available in California.

10 (2) Development of a method and curriculum by
11 which parents of newborns may receive parenting
12 education in an appropriate range of public and private
13 nonschool settings.

14 (3) Identification of the classifications of licensed
15 professionals who would be the most appropriate
16 educators of parenting skills in nonschool settings,
17 assessment of the need for the establishment of
18 continuing education requirements for these
19 professionals, and development of mechanisms by which
20 these professionals can be engaged in the practice of
21 parenting education.

22 (4) Creation of a means for coordinating parenting
23 education services, in consultation with the State
24 Department of Education.

25 (5) Identification of the ways and means for
26 developing the funding for the various options for
27 parenting education.

28 (6) Identification and development of additional
29 methods by which each of the state departments
30 participating in this summit can ensure that Californians
31 receive effective and useful parenting education.

32 (g) The State Department of Health Services shall
33 organize the recommendations of the summit into a
34 proposed California master plan for parenting education
35 and submit that plan to the Legislature no later than
36 January 1, 2001.

37 (h) The State Department of Health Services shall
38 make every reasonable effort to secure private funding to
39 underwrite the cost of this summit.

(i) The State Department of Health Services shall not be responsible for travel costs and per diem associated with this summit for any participant, except when required by state law or administrative policy.

(j) After making available copies of the master plan to the Legislature and appropriate persons in the executive branch, the State Department of Health Services may make additional copies available to interested persons at a reasonable charge to cover costs of printing and mailing.

(k) The State Department of Health Services shall evaluate the implementation of the summit's recommendations and shall make every reasonable effort to either use existing resources or secure private funding to underwrite this evaluation.

SEC. 2. Section 48645.8 is added to the Education Code, to read:

48645.8. A juvenile court school shall provide, to each pupil who is at least 12 years old, a course in parenting education, with content designed to develop a knowledge of topics described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6.

SEC. 3. Section 51220.6 is added to the Education Code, to read:

51220.6. (a) Commencing in the 2000–01 school year, a school district shall ensure that all pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, or the equivalent thereof, receive parenting education from adequately trained instructors in appropriate courses. To the extent practicable, school districts shall include parenting education in existing appropriate education courses. For purposes of this subdivision, “school district” includes county boards of education, county superintendents of schools, and state schools for the handicapped.

(b) The required parenting education shall be designed to develop knowledge of topics including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (1) Parental responsibilities.
- (2) Child growth and development.
- (3) Maintaining healthy relationships.
- (4) Child abuse and neglect issues.
- (5) Self-esteem.

1 (6) Personal hygiene.

2 (7) Household budgeting.

3 (8) Teen parenting issues.

4 (c) A teacher of parenting education shall meet at
5 least one of the following qualifications:

6 (1) Hold a valid California teaching credential that
7 includes preparation to teach child growth and
8 development, family and interpersonal relationships, and
9 parenting education.

10 (2) Complete at least 40 hours of in-service instruction,
11 within the last five years, in child growth and
12 development, family and interpersonal relationships, and
13 parenting education, as approved by the State
14 Department of Education.

15 (d) Parenting education may be offered by a team of
16 teachers functioning under the direction or supervision
17 of a teacher who holds the teaching credential described
18 in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

19 (e) In accordance with state law and the policy of the
20 school district, each school district shall give the following
21 to the parent or guardian of a pupil who is currently
22 enrolled in a course in which parenting education is
23 taught:

24 (1) Adequate notice of the pupil's proposed
25 participation in the parenting education curriculum set
26 forth in this section.

27 (2) Access to the parenting education instructional
28 materials for his or her review.

29 (f) Each school district shall ensure that all pupils who
30 are pregnant and all pupils who are known to be
31 prospective fathers for the babies of these pregnant
32 pupils shall be enrolled in the next scheduled parenting
33 education course.

34 (g) On or before January 1, 2004, the State
35 Department of Education shall submit to the Legislature
36 an evaluation of the effectiveness of the parenting
37 education required by this section.

38 SEC. 4. Section 885.5 is added to the Welfare and
39 Institutions Code, to read:

1 885.5. The Board of Corrections, in consultation with
2 the Department of the Youth Authority, shall ensure that
3 a juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp shall
4 provide to each ward committed to the home, ranch, or
5 camp who is at least 12 years old a course in parenting
6 education, with content designed to develop a knowledge
7 of topics described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6
8 of the Education Code.

9 SEC. 5. Section 896.5 is added to the Welfare and
10 Institutions Code, to read:

11 896.5. The Board of Corrections, in consultation with
12 the Department of the Youth Authority, shall ensure that
13 a regional youth educational facility shall provide to each
14 ward committed to the facility a course in parenting
15 education, with content designed to develop a knowledge
16 of topics described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6
17 of the Education Code.

18 SEC. 6. Section 1122.5 is added to the Welfare and
19 Institutions Code, to read:

20 1122.5. The Department of the Youth Authority shall
21 ensure that an institution under this chapter shall provide
22 to each ward committed to that institution a course in
23 parenting education, with content designed to develop a
24 knowledge of topics described in subdivision (b) of
25 Section 51220.6 of the Education Code.

26 SEC. 7. Section 1857.5 is added to the Welfare and
27 Institutions Code, to read:

28 1857.5. The Board of Corrections, in consultation with
29 the Department of the Youth Authority, shall ensure that
30 a youth correctional center shall provide to each ward
31 committed to the center a course in parenting education,
32 with content designed to develop a knowledge of topics
33 described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6 of the
34 Education Code.

35 SEC. 8. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the
36 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates
37 determines that this act contains costs mandated by the
38 state, reimbursement to local agencies and school
39 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7
40 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title

1 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the
2 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million
3 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from
4 the State Mandates Claims Fund.

