

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 21, 1999

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 22, 1999

SENATE BILL

No. 305

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 amended, 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 bill would require the department to 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, *parents,*
18 *and children.*

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



1 address the public costs that result from dysfunctional
2 behavior.

3 (e) The director, or his or her designee, of the
4 following departments shall participate in the summit as
5 provided in subdivision (d):

6 (1) Department of Corrections.

7 (2) Department of the Youth Authority.

8 (3) State Department of Social Services.

9 (4) State Department of Mental Health.

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

11 (6) Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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

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

16 (2) Development of a method and curriculum by
17 which parents of newborns may receive parenting
18 education in an appropriate range of public and private
19 nonschool settings.

20 (3) Identification of the classifications of licensed
21 professionals who would be the most appropriate
22 educators of parenting skills in nonschool settings,
23 assessment of the need for the establishment of
24 continuing education requirements for these
25 professionals, and development of mechanisms by which
26 these professionals can be engaged in the practice of
27 parenting education.

28 (4) Creation of a means for coordinating parenting
29 education services, in consultation with the State
30 Department of Education.

31 (5) Identification of the ways and means for
32 developing the funding for the various options for
33 parenting education.

34 (6) Identification and development of additional
35 methods by which each of the state departments
36 participating in this summit can ensure that Californians
37 receive effective and useful parenting education.

38 (g) The State Department of Health Services shall
39 organize the recommendations of the summit into a
40 proposed California master plan for parenting education



1 and submit that plan to the Legislature no later than
2 January 1, 2001.

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

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

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

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

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

22 48645.8. A juvenile court school shall provide, to each
23 pupil who is at least 12 years old, a course in parenting
24 education, with content designed to develop a knowledge
25 of topics described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6.

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

28 51220.6. (a) Commencing in the 2000–01 school year,
29 a school district shall ensure that all pupils in grades 9 to
30 12, inclusive, or the equivalent thereof, receive parenting
31 education from adequately trained instructors in
32 appropriate courses. To the extent practicable, school
33 districts shall include parenting education in existing
34 appropriate education courses. For purposes of this
35 subdivision, “school district” includes county boards of
36 education, county superintendents of schools, and state
37 schools for the handicapped.

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



- 1 (1) Parental responsibilities.
- 2 (2) Child growth and development.
- 3 (3) Maintaining healthy relationships.
- 4 (4) Child abuse and neglect issues.
- 5 (5) Self-esteem.
- 6 (6) Personal hygiene.
- 7 (7) Household budgeting.
- 8 (8) Teen parenting issues.
- 9 (c) A teacher of parenting education shall meet at
- 10 least one of the following qualifications:
- 11 (1) Hold a valid California teaching credential that
- 12 includes preparation to teach child growth and
- 13 development, family and interpersonal relationships, and
- 14 parenting education.
- 15 (2) Complete at least 40 hours of in-service instruction,
- 16 within the last five years, in child growth and
- 17 development, family and interpersonal relationships, and
- 18 parenting education, as approved by the State
- 19 Department of Education.
- 20 (d) Parenting education may be offered by a team of
- 21 teachers functioning under the direction or supervision
- 22 of a teacher who holds the teaching credential described
- 23 in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).
- 24 (e) In accordance with state law and the policy of the
- 25 school district, each school district shall give the following
- 26 to the parent or guardian of a pupil who is currently
- 27 enrolled in a course in which parenting education is
- 28 taught:
- 29 (1) Adequate notice of the pupil's proposed
- 30 participation in the parenting education curriculum set
- 31 forth in this section.
- 32 (2) Access to the parenting education instructional
- 33 materials for his or her review.
- 34 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature that each school
- 35 district ensure that all pupils known to be pregnant and
- 36 all pupils who are known to be prospective fathers for the
- 37 babies of these pregnant pupils shall be enrolled in the
- 38 next scheduled parenting education course.
- 39 (g) On or before January 1, 2004, the State
- 40 Department of Education shall submit to the Legislature



1 an evaluation of the effectiveness of the parenting
2 education required by this section.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

39 SEC. 8. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the
40 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates



1 determines that this act contains costs mandated by the
2 state, reimbursement to local agencies and school
3 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7
4 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title
5 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the
6 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million
7 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from
8 the State Mandates Claims Fund.

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