

**Introduced by Senator Vasconcellos**

January 11, 2000

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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 1348, 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 on or before March 31, 2001, 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 available research 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 2001–02 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 the State Department of Education to submit to the Legislature an evaluation of the parenting education required by this provision, on or before January 1, 2005.

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 on or before March 31, 2001, 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 2001.

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, experts in  
17 public school parenting education programs, parents, and  
18 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  
27 address the public costs that result from dysfunctional  
28 behavior.



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

- 4 (1) Department of Corrections.
- 5 (2) Department of the Youth Authority.
- 6 (3) State Department of Social Services.
- 7 (4) State Department of Mental Health.
- 8 (5) State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.
- 9 (6) State Department of Education.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (g) The State Department of Health Services shall  
37 organize the recommendations of the summit into a  
38 proposed California master plan for parenting education,  
39 and shall submit that plan to the Legislature on or before  
40 January 1, 2001.



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

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

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

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

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

20 48645.8. A juvenile court school shall provide, to each  
21 pupil who is at least 12 years old, a course in parenting  
22 education, with content designed to develop a knowledge  
23 of topics described in subdivision (b) of Section 51220.6.

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

26 51220.6. (a) Commencing in the 2001–02 school year,  
27 each school district shall ensure that all pupils in grades  
28 9 to 12, inclusive, or the equivalent thereof, receive  
29 parenting education from adequately trained instructors  
30 in appropriate courses, including, but not limited to,  
31 home economics careers and technology education. To  
32 the extent practicable, school districts shall include  
33 parenting education in existing appropriate education  
34 courses. For purposes of this subdivision, “school district”  
35 includes county boards of education, county  
36 superintendents of schools, and state schools for the  
37 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 (9) Positive communication and problem solving skill.
- 10 (c) A teacher of parenting education shall meet at
- 11 least one of the following qualifications:
  - 12 (1) Hold a valid California teaching credential that
  - 13 includes preparation to teach child growth and
  - 14 development, family and interpersonal relationships, and
  - 15 parenting education.
  - 16 (2) Within five years of initially becoming a teacher of
  - 17 parenting education, have completed at least 40 hours of
  - 18 in-service instruction in child growth and development,
  - 19 family and interpersonal relationships, and parenting
  - 20 education, as approved by the State Department of
  - 21 Education.
- 22 (d) Parenting education may be offered by a team of
- 23 teachers functioning under the direction or supervision
- 24 of a teacher who holds the teaching credential described
- 25 in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).
- 26 (e) In accordance with state law and the policy of the
- 27 school district, each school district shall give the following
- 28 to the parent or guardian of a pupil who is currently
- 29 enrolled in a course in which parenting education is
- 30 taught:
  - 31 (1) Adequate notice of the pupil's proposed
  - 32 participation in the parenting education curriculum set
  - 33 forth in this section.
  - 34 (2) Access to the parenting education instructional
  - 35 materials for his or her review.
- 36 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature that each school
- 37 district ensure that all pupils known to be pregnant, and
- 38 all pupils who are known to be prospective fathers shall
- 39 be enrolled in the next scheduled parenting education
- 40 course.



1 (g) On or before January 1, 2005, the State  
2 Department of Education shall submit to the Legislature  
3 an evaluation of the effectiveness of the parenting  
4 education required by this section.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



1 SEC. 8. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the  
2 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates  
3 determines that this act contains costs mandated by the  
4 state, reimbursement to local agencies and school  
5 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7  
6 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title  
7 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the  
8 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million  
9 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from  
10 the State Mandates Claims Fund.

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