

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 3, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2000

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 3, 2000

SENATE BILL

No. 1348

Introduced by Senator Vasconcellos

January 11, 2000

An act relating to parenting.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1348, 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 on or before ~~March 31~~ *April 30*, 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, *among other things*, 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~~ *report its findings* to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2002.

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

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)~~

7 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of*
8 *the following:*

9 *(a) Our failure to prepare young Californians to make*
10 *informed, wise choices regarding whether to become,*
11 *and how to be good, healthy, and effective parents results*
12 *in too many unwise choices and too little healthy*
13 *parenting for the next generation of Californians.*

14 *(b) Research indicates that over 50 percent of*
15 *Californians imprisoned for violent crime were abused as*
16 *children.*

17 *(c) Providing early and smart parenting education to*
18 *every California pupil would help us overcome set*
19 *failures.*

20 *(d) There are a variety of parenting education*
21 *programs in a variety of venues throughout California,*
22 *differing in their availability and in their accessibility with*
23 *regard to geography, time, and location.*

24 *(e) The State of California must recognize, encourage,*
25 *and build upon, rather than duplicate, the effective and*
26 *available parenting education programs.*

27 *(f) The State of California must identify venues in*
28 *which effective parenting education is not available, and*
29 *strive to ensure access to parenting education in those*
30 *venues.*

31 *(g) Every Californian must recognize the need,*
32 *responsibility, and opportunity to prepare himself or*
33 *herself better to become a healthy parent.*

34 *(h) Every California institution must recognize its*
35 *responsibility, duty, and capacity to engage itself in*
36 *supporting the development of Californians into*
37 *healthier parents.*



1 (i) *The private sector, through major policy*
2 *development foundations such as the California Wellness*
3 *Foundation, has begun to recognize the fundamental*
4 *benefits of parenting education in preventing crime and*
5 *violence.*

6 (j) *The state should study particular strategies that are*
7 *proving successful in effectively reaching and providing*
8 *parenting education to the most vulnerable of our*
9 *population.*

10 SEC. 2. *It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting*
11 *this act that the State of California convene a top level*
12 *statewide summit to determine whether parenting*
13 *education should be provided to every young Californian*
14 *and, if so, to design for submission to the Legislature for*
15 *its consideration, a comprehensive strategic action plan*
16 *for ensuring that every young Californian gain the*
17 *benefit of parenting education, in hopes of fostering the*
18 *development of healthier parents, and thereby healthier*
19 *families, children and adults.*

20 SEC 3. (a) *The Director of Health Services shall*
21 *convene a summit on or before ~~March 31~~ April 30, 2001,*
22 *for the purpose of ~~developing~~ assessing whether it would*
23 *be smart and wise for the state of California to develop a*
24 *master plan for parenting education in nonschool*
25 *settings. The master plan shall especially accommodate*
26 *those persons who are no longer attending school in the*
27 *year 2001.*

28 ~~(e)~~

29 (b) *The summit shall include interested parties of all*
30 *ideologies and persuasions, ~~legislative~~ including*
31 *significant representation from diverse communities,*
32 *experts in parenting issues, family and child*
33 *development experts, representatives of current*
34 *providers, academic experts, business leaders, ~~family and~~*
35 *~~child development~~ experts, health professionals, experts*
36 *in public school parenting education programs, parents,*
37 *and children.*

38 ~~(d)~~

39 (c) *The director, or his or her designee, of each of the*
40 *departments listed in subdivision ~~(e)~~ (d) shall participate*



1 in the summit. To the extent that his or her department
 2 has jurisdiction, each director shall collect, complete, and
 3 submit to the summit the best research available
 4 *regarding what it takes to develop a whole child with*
 5 *healthy self-esteem and a healthy sense of personal and*
 6 *social responsibility and regarding the causal relationship*
 7 *between good and healthy parenting, or lack thereof, to*
 8 *dysfunctional behavior, as well as the costs for providing*
 9 *this universal parenting education.* The research
 10 submitted to the summit shall also address the public costs
 11 that result from dysfunctional behavior.

12 ~~(e)~~

13 (d) The director, or his or her designee, of each of the
 14 following departments shall participate in the summit as
 15 provided in subdivision ~~(d)~~ (c):

16 ~~(1) Department of Corrections.~~

17 ~~(2) Department of the Youth Authority.~~

18 ~~(3) State Department of Social Services.~~

19 ~~(4) State Department of Mental Health.~~

20 ~~(5) State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.~~

21 ~~(6) State Department of Education.~~

22 ~~(f)~~

23 (1) *The Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

24 (2) *The Chairperson of the State Board of Education.*

25 (3) *The State Secretary of Education.*

26 (4) *The State Department of Social Services.*

27 (5) *The State Department of Mental Health.*

28 (6) *The State Department of Alcohol and Drug*
 29 *Programs.*

30 (7) *The Department of the Youth Authority.*

31 (8) *The Department of Corrections.*

32 (9) *The Attorney General.*

33 (g) The objectives of the summit shall include, but not
 34 be limited to, the following:

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

37 (2) *Determination of whether universal parenting*
 38 *education for every young Californian would improve*
 39 *the public health and safety of all Californians.*

1 (3) *If it is found to be valuable, the following shall be*
2 *included as part of a proposed master plan to be*
3 *submitted to the Legislature for its consideration.*

4 (A) Development of a method by which parents of
5 newborns may receive parenting education in an
6 appropriate range of public and private nonschool
7 settings.

8 ~~(3)~~

9 (B) Identification of the classifications of licensed
10 professionals who would be the most appropriate
11 educators of parenting skills in nonschool settings,
12 assessment of the need for the establishment of instructor
13 training and continuing education requirements for
14 these professionals, and development of mechanisms by
15 which these professionals can be engaged in the practice
16 of parenting education.

17 ~~(4)~~

18 (C) *Development of a method and curriculum in*
19 *juvenile court school, homes, ranches, camps, and*
20 *forestry camps, as well as a method for making parenting*
21 *education available to all public high school students.*

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

25 ~~(5)~~

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

29 ~~(6)~~

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

34 ~~(g)~~

35 (h) The State Department of Health Services shall
36 ~~organize~~ *report its findings to the Legislature, including,*
37 *if it concludes that it would be valuable to do so,*
38 *organizing* the recommendations of the summit into a
39 proposed California master plan for parenting education,



1 and shall submit that plan to the Legislature on or before
2 January 1, 2002.

3 ~~(h)~~

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

7 ~~(i)~~

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

12 ~~(j)~~

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

18 ~~(k)~~

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

