

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 29, 2000
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 25, 2000
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 7, 2000
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, ~~and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1348, as amended, Vasconcellos. Parenting education.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to superintend the schools of the state. Under existing law, responsibilities of the superintendent also include the administration of general child care and development programs.

This bill would require the superintendent, in consultation with the Secretary for Education, to submit a proposal to convene a summit, on or before September 1, 2001, regarding the advisability of developing a master plan for parenting education in nonschool settings. The bill would require the superintendent to convene and conduct the summit pursuant to the approved plan, and 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 superintendent, in consultation with the secretary, to prepare a report with respect to parenting education and universal parenting education, and to submit the report to the State Board of Education and the Legislature on or before January 1, 2002.

~~This bill would appropriate \$145,000 from the General Fund to the superintendent for the purposes of carrying out the superintendent's responsibilities under the bill.~~

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. Appropriation: yes no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) Our failure to prepare young Californians to make
4 informed, wise choices regarding whether to become,
5 and how to be good, healthy, and effective parents results
6 in too many unwise choices and too little healthy
7 parenting for the next generation of Californians.

8 (b) Research indicates that over 50 percent of
9 Californians imprisoned for violent crime were abused as
10 children.

11 (c) Providing early and smart parenting education to
12 every California pupil would help us overcome set
13 failures.

14 (d) There are a variety of parenting education
15 programs in a variety of venues throughout California,
16 differing in their availability and in their accessibility with
17 regard to geography, time, and location.

18 (e) The State of California must recognize, encourage,
19 and build upon, rather than duplicate, the effective and
20 available parenting education programs.

21 (f) The State of California must identify venues in
22 which effective parenting education is not available, and



1 strive to ensure access to parenting education in those
2 venues.

3 (g) Every Californian must recognize the need,
4 responsibility, and opportunity to prepare himself or
5 herself better to become a healthy parent.

6 (h) Every California institution must recognize its
7 responsibility, duty, and capacity to engage itself in
8 supporting the development of Californians into
9 healthier parents.

10 (i) The private sector, through major policy
11 development foundations such as the California Wellness
12 Foundation, has begun to recognize the fundamental
13 benefits of parenting education in preventing crime and
14 violence.

15 (j) The state should study particular strategies that are
16 proving successful in effectively reaching and providing
17 parenting education to the most vulnerable of our
18 population.

19 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting
20 this act that the State of California convene a top level
21 statewide summit to determine whether parenting
22 education should be provided to every young Californian
23 and, if so, to design for submission to the Legislature for
24 its consideration, a comprehensive strategic action plan
25 for ensuring that every young Californian gain the
26 benefit of parenting education, in hopes of fostering the
27 development of healthier parents, and thereby healthier
28 families, children and adults.

29 SEC. 3. (a) The Superintendent of Public Instruction
30 shall design, in consultation with the Secretary for
31 Education, and shall submit for consideration, possible
32 revision, and approval, to the State Board of Education,
33 a proposal to convene a summit, on or about September
34 1, 2001, for the purpose of assessing whether it would be
35 smart and wise for the state of California to develop a
36 master plan for parenting education in nonschool
37 settings. Upon approval of the proposal, the
38 superintendent shall convene and conduct the parenting
39 education summit pursuant to the approved plan.



1 (b) The summit shall include interested parties of all
2 ideologies and persuasions, including significant
3 representation from diverse communities, experts in
4 parenting issues, family and child development experts,
5 representatives of current providers, academic experts,
6 business leaders, faith leaders, health professionals,
7 experts in public school parenting education programs,
8 parents, and children.

9 (c) The director, or his or her designee, of each of the
10 following departments shall participate in the summit as
11 provided in subdivision (d):

- 12 (1) The Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 13 (2) The Chairperson of the State Board of Education.
- 14 (3) The Secretary for Education.
- 15 (4) The State Department of Health Services.
- 16 (5) The State Department of Social Services.
- 17 (6) The State Department of Mental Health.
- 18 (7) The State Department of Alcohol and Drug
19 Programs.
- 20 (8) The Department of the Youth Authority.
- 21 (9) The Board of Corrections.
- 22 (10) The Department of Corrections.
- 23 (11) The Attorney General.

24 (d) To the extent that his or her department has
25 jurisdiction, each director of a department listed in
26 subdivision (c) shall collect, complete, and submit to the
27 summit the best research available regarding what it
28 takes to develop a whole child with healthy self-esteem
29 and a healthy sense of personal and social responsibility
30 and regarding the causal relationship between good and
31 healthy parenting, or the lack thereof, to dysfunctional
32 behavior, as well as the costs for providing this universal
33 parenting education. The research submitted to the
34 summit shall also address the public costs that result from
35 dysfunctional behavior.

36 (e) The objectives of the summit shall include, but not
37 be limited to, the following:

- 38 (1) Development of an inventory of all parenting
39 education programs currently available in California.



1 (2) Determination of whether universal parenting
2 education for every young Californian would improve
3 the public health and safety of all Californians.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (f) The superintendent, in consultation with the
34 Secretary for Education, shall prepare a report with
35 respect to parenting education and universal parenting
36 education, including, if he or she concludes that it would
37 be valuable to do so, organizing the recommendations of
38 the summit into a proposed California master plan for
39 parenting education. The report shall be submitted to the
40 State Board of Education for its consideration, possible



1 revision, and adoption. The report shall then be
2 submitted to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2002.

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

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

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

16 ~~SEC. 4. The sum of one hundred forty-five thousand~~
17 ~~dollars (\$145,000) is hereby appropriated from the~~
18 ~~General Fund to the Superintendent of Public~~
19 ~~Instruction for the purpose of carrying out the~~
20 ~~superintendent's responsibilities under this act.~~

