

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 743

Introduced by Assembly Member Block

February 17, 2011

An act to add Section 78219 to the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 743, as introduced, Block. Community colleges: student assessments: California Community Colleges: common assessment system.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state.

The Seymour-Campbell Matriculation Act of 1986 requires, contingent on the appropriation of funds for the purposes of the act, matriculation services to be made available by the colleges. The act requires those services to include assessment and counseling upon enrollment, including administration of assessment instruments to determine student competency in computational and language skills.

This bill would require the board to establish a common assessment system with specified objectives, that seeks to create a centrally delivered system of student assessment to be used as one of multiple measures, consistent with specified law, for the purposes of community college placement and advisement.

The bill would require the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to work in collaboration with the State Department of Education and the California State University when developing a

common college-readiness standard that will be reflected in the creation of common assessment instruments to align the state's college-readiness standards toward future common state standards.

The bill would require the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to submit a report to the Legislature and the Governor on the progress of implementation of the common assessment system by December 31, 2012.

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. Section 78219 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:
3 78219. (a) The Board of Governors of the California
4 Community Colleges shall establish a common assessment system
5 to be used as one of multiple measures, consistent with existing
6 regulations, for the purposes of community college placement and
7 advisement. The system shall include all of the following
8 objectives:
9 (1) Creation of a centrally delivered system of student
10 assessment that provides a single common assessment instrument
11 for use by community colleges in the curriculum areas of English,
12 mathematics, and English as a second language.
13 (2) Creation of a secure, centrally housed assessment test data
14 warehouse that shall collect both of the following:
15 (A) All available assessment scores generated by assessed
16 students at all participating community colleges.
17 (B) All available K–12 assessment data and transcript
18 information for students at all participating community colleges.
19 The use of this data shall be limited to placing and advising
20 community college students to enhance their success with and
21 completion of their postsecondary education objectives.
22 (3) Creation of an Internet Web portal that can be accessed by
23 community college personnel and students and that provides all
24 of the following:
25 (A) An assessment profile, generated for each student upon
26 request, which includes all assessment information available in
27 the data warehouse created pursuant to paragraph (2). This profile

1 shall be accessible for counseling, matriculation, and course
2 placement purposes.

3 (B) A pretest application that emulates the structure of the
4 student assessment created pursuant to paragraph (1) that students
5 can practice on and familiarize themselves with before taking
6 future assessments.

7 (C) An advisement tool that provides students with information
8 about the importance of taking the common assessment to be placed
9 in college-level courses in English, mathematics, or English as a
10 second language and the historical success rates of students who
11 place in various levels of remedial coursework.

12 (b) In developing the common assessment, the Office of the
13 Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall work in
14 collaboration with the State Department of Education and the
15 California State University when developing a common
16 college-readiness standard that will be reflected in the creation of
17 assessment instruments.

18 (c) The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community
19 Colleges shall work with the State Department of Education and
20 the California State University to move toward alignment of
21 college-readiness standards and align toward future common core
22 state standards.

23 (d) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall
24 convene an advisory committee established pursuant to subdivision
25 (a) that includes, but is not limited to, representatives from all of
26 the following entities:

27 (1) The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community
28 Colleges.

29 (2) The Legislative Analyst's Office.

30 (3) The Department of Finance.

31 (4) The State Department of Education.

32 (5) The California State University.

33 (6) The Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges.

34 (7) The Research and Planning Group for California Community
35 Colleges.

36 (8) The California Community Colleges Matriculation
37 Professionals Association.

38 (e) The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community
39 Colleges shall submit a report to the Legislature and the Governor

- 1 on the progress of the implementation of the common assessment
- 2 system by December 31, 2012.

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