

SENATE BILL

No. 1

Introduced by Senator Steinberg

February 1, 2011

An act to add and repeal Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 54698) of Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to partnership academies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1, as introduced, Steinberg. Partnership academies: Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention Program.

(1) Existing law establishes the partnership academies program as a school-business partnership program to provide occupational training to educationally disadvantaged high school pupils. Under existing law, the Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to award grants to school districts maintaining high schools to plan, establish, and maintain these partnership academies.

Existing law requires the surcharge imposed on the consumption of electricity in the state to be transferred to the Energy Resources Programs Account in the General Fund, which is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for ongoing energy programs and projects.

This bill would require the Controller annually to allocate \$8,000,000 from the Energy Resources Program Account, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for expenditure in the form of grants to school districts to be allocated pursuant to the existing provisions for creating and maintaining partnership academies. The bill would require a grantee to implement

or maintain a partnership academy that focuses on employment in clean technology businesses and renewable energy businesses and provides skilled workforces for the products and services for energy or water conservation, or both, renewable energy, pollution reduction, or other technologies.

The bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop guidelines, which would be exempted from the Administrative Procedure Act, to ensure that programs receiving grants reflect current state energy policies and priorities as well as provide skills and education linked to the needs of relevant industries.

The bill would authorize a school district to apply for planning grants for implementing a partnership academy and would allow the Superintendent to expend up to 5% of the funds transferred to the Superintendent to pay the costs incurred in the administration of this program. The bill would require the Superintendent, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to provide a report to the Legislature that includes a description of the curriculum and substance of the programs funded by grants awarded pursuant to these provisions, and specified data. The bill would provide that the bill's provisions would become inoperative on June 30, 2017, and, as of January 1, 2018, would repeal these provisions.

(2) The California Constitution authorizes the Governor to declare a fiscal emergency and to call the Legislature into special session for that purpose. Governor Schwarzenegger issued a proclamation declaring a fiscal emergency, and calling a special session for this purpose, on December 6, 2010. Governor Brown issued a proclamation on January 20, 2011, declaring and reaffirming that a fiscal emergency exists and stating that his proclamation supersedes the earlier proclamation for purposes of that constitutional provision.

This bill would state that it addresses the fiscal emergency declared and reaffirmed by the Governor by proclamation issued on January 20, 2011, pursuant to the California Constitution.

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. Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 54698) is
2 added to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the
3 Education Code, to read:

4
5 Article 5.5. Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job
6 Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention
7 Program
8

9 54698. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
10 following:

11 (1) California’s international leadership in renewable energy,
12 energy conservation, clean technology, and climate change policies
13 creates significant opportunities to improve workforce development
14 and educational opportunities for high school pupils in the fields
15 of energy conservation, clean technology, and renewable energy.

16 (2) California has an opportunity to combine the education and
17 training of both its future college-educated workforce and its highly
18 skilled technical workforce with its effort to reduce high school
19 dropout rates. Clean technology jobs and renewable energy jobs
20 (“green collar jobs”) can provide underserved communities with
21 a pathway out of poverty, a new and inspiring focus for educational
22 institutions, and significant statewide economic and environmental
23 benefits.

24 (3) A poll of at-risk California 9th and 10th graders by Peter D.
25 Hart Research Associates found that six in 10 pupils were not
26 motivated to succeed in school. Of those pupils, more than 90
27 percent said they would be more engaged in their education if
28 classes helped them acquire skills and knowledge relevant to future
29 careers. Career technical education programs that create paths to
30 further education, advanced training, or productive jobs in high
31 opportunity careers can keep pupils engaged and on track toward
32 a diploma.

33 (4) Investments in delivering pupils the skills and knowledge
34 needed for further education and employment in industries that
35 focus on renewable energy, energy conservation, clean
36 technologies, and climate change mitigation will provide multiple
37 benefits to California in all of the following ways:

1 (A) Helping to achieve the state’s climate change goals required
2 by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division
3 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety
4 Code).

5 (B) Creating employment opportunities for Californians that
6 would otherwise not be fully realized.

7 (C) Expanding the state’s utilization of renewable energy.

8 (D) Contributing to the growth of clean technology businesses
9 in California.

10 (5) Absent action, California will miss an opportunity to curtail
11 high school dropout and joblessness rates among its young people
12 and will perpetuate the lack of an integrated education, workforce
13 development, and business infrastructure that otherwise could take
14 advantage of the projected growth in these industries and the
15 corresponding increase in state and local taxes, other public
16 revenues, and additional economic benefits associated with a likely
17 surge in clean technology and renewable energy jobs.

18 (6) California must prioritize the reduction of high school
19 dropout and joblessness rates among its young people. It must also
20 ensure that pupils have pathways to careers that will help achieve
21 its greenhouse gas reduction goals and contribute to the
22 development of its renewable energy resources.

23 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to stimulate the economy
24 of the State of California by creating partnership academies that
25 will lead to the creation of good paying jobs in industries and
26 businesses that are in compliance with the state’s environmental
27 protection laws and regulations, providing entrepreneurs and
28 employers the best-trained workforce in the United States, and
29 preparing young people to work in clean, green industries and
30 professions. These jobs would help achieve California’s climate
31 change mitigation obligations and conserve our state’s vital
32 resources of water, air quality, land, and energy.

33 54698.1. As used in this article, the following terms have the
34 following meanings:

35 (a) “Clean technology business” means a business that focuses
36 on one or more of the following:

37 (1) Energy audits for determining the energy savings that could
38 be recovered through utility bill financing.

39 (2) Retrofitting and weatherization activities that increase energy
40 efficiency and conservation.

1 (3) Energy- and water-efficient public buildings.

2 (4) Retrofitting and installing energy-efficient household
3 appliances, windows, doors, insulation, and lighting.

4 (5) Retrofitting and installing water and energy conservation
5 technologies in existing homes, industrial buildings, commercial
6 and public buildings, and farms, forestlands, and ranches, to
7 improve efficiency, including the use of energy and water
8 management technologies and control systems.

9 (6) The manufacture, sale, assembly, installation, construction,
10 and maintenance of energy-efficient technologies and renewable
11 energy facilities or the component parts of renewable energy
12 technologies.

13 (7) Energy-efficient technologies or practices and renewable
14 energy production or the component parts of renewable energy
15 plants and energy distribution, including energy storage, energy
16 infrastructure (including transmission), transportation (including
17 logistics), clean vehicle technology, clean heat and power, and
18 water and wastewater (including water conservation).

19 (8) Natural resource conservation for the purpose of adapting
20 to climate change, including fish and wildlife habitat restoration,
21 reforestation, native species preservation, invasive species
22 eradication, community tree planting, and other activities that
23 address stressors on natural resources generated by climate change.

24 (b) “Renewable energy business” means a business that focuses
25 on one or more of the following:

26 (1) Research and development, manufacturing, generation,
27 development, or maintenance of appropriately sited power line
28 transmission.

29 (2) Power storage.

30 (3) Installation, repair, maintenance, or related activities
31 necessary to produce energy from wind, photovoltaic, solar
32 thermal, geothermal, biomass, including cellulosic ethanol,
33 biodiesel, and biomass power, green waste, and fuel cells.

34 54699. (a) The Controller shall annually allocate the sum of
35 eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) from the Energy Resources
36 Program Account, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the
37 Superintendent for expenditure in the form of grants to school
38 districts, that shall be allocated using the same criteria as provided
39 in Article 5 (commencing with Section 54690), except as provided

1 in subdivision (b) of Section 54691, and pursuant to the additional
2 requirements of this article.

3 (b) In addition to the requirements specified in Article 5
4 (commencing with Section 54690), a school district applying for
5 a grant shall propose to implement a partnership academy, or to
6 maintain an existing academy, that focuses on employment in clean
7 technology businesses or renewable energy businesses and provides
8 skilled workforces for the products and services for energy or water
9 conservation, or both, renewable energy, pollution reduction, or
10 other technologies that improve the environment in furtherance of
11 state environmental laws.

12 (c) The Superintendent shall review grant applications submitted
13 by school districts in consultation with the State Energy Resources
14 Conservation and Development Commission.

15 (d) The Superintendent, in consultation with the State Energy
16 Resources Conservation and Development Commission, shall
17 review ongoing programs to ensure that those programs are
18 consistent with current state energy policies and priorities.

19 (e) (1) The State Energy Resources Conservation and
20 Development Commission, in consultation with the department,
21 shall develop guidelines to ensure that programs receiving grants
22 reflect current state energy policies and priorities as well as provide
23 skills and education linked to the needs of relevant industries.

24 (2) For the initial adoption of guidelines, the commission shall
25 provide written notice to the public of not less than 30 days.

26 (3) For substantive amendments to the guidelines, the
27 commission shall provide written public notice of not less than 15
28 days.

29 (4) Notwithstanding any other law, guidelines adopted pursuant
30 to this article shall be exempt from the requirements of Chapter
31 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of
32 Title 2 of the Government Code.

33 (f) (1) The Superintendent shall give first priority for grants
34 pursuant to this article to school districts that propose to establish
35 a partnership academy at schoolsites that do not currently
36 participate in the partnership academies program pursuant to Article
37 5 (commencing with Section 54690) and shall give second priority
38 to school districts that would establish a partnership academy at
39 schoolsites that do not currently participate in the green partnership

1 academies program funded pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 757
2 of the Statutes of 2008.

3 (2) The Superintendent shall award grants to a school district
4 to establish or operate a partnership academy pursuant to this article
5 in the following amounts:

6 (A) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
7 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for each qualified student
8 enrolled in grade 9 in an academy during the first year of that
9 academy's operation, except no more than forty-five thousand
10 dollars (\$45,000) may be granted to any one academy for the initial
11 year.

12 (B) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
13 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for each qualified student
14 enrolled in either grade 9 or 10 in an academy during the second
15 year of that academy's operation except that no more than eighty
16 thousand dollars (\$80,000) may be granted to any one academy
17 for the second year.

18 (C) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
19 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each qualified student enrolled in
20 any of grades 9 to 11, inclusive, in an academy during the third
21 year of that academy's operation, except that no more than one
22 hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) may be granted to
23 any one academy for the third year.

24 (D) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
25 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each qualified student enrolled in
26 any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in an academy during the fourth
27 and following years of that academy's operation, except that no
28 more than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) may be
29 granted to any one academy for each fiscal year.

30 (3) For purposes of this section, "qualified student" has the same
31 meaning as described in subdivision (c) of Section 54691, but shall
32 also include a 9th grade pupil who meets the at-risk criteria
33 specified in Section 54690, who is enrolled in an academy for the
34 9th grade, obtains 90 percent of the credits each academic year in
35 courses that are required for graduation, and successfully completes
36 a school year during the 9th grade with an attendance record of
37 not less than 80 percent.

38 (g) The Superintendent may award a grant to a school district
39 that has received a grant pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with

1 Section 54690), subject to subdivision (d) and the availability of
2 funds.

3 (h) The Superintendent shall encourage a school district that
4 receives a grant under this article to work and coordinate with
5 regional occupational centers and programs for the required career
6 technical education sequence of courses.

7 (i) A school district may apply for planning grants, in accordance
8 with subdivision (a) of Section 54691, for implementing a
9 partnership academy pursuant to this article.

10 (j) Commencing in 2013 and not later than January 1 of each
11 year for which this article is operative, the Superintendent, in
12 consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and
13 Development Commission, shall provide a report to the Legislature
14 that includes, but is not limited to, a description of the curriculum
15 and substance of the programs funded by grants awarded pursuant
16 to this article. The first annual report shall include the identification
17 of gaps in available curricula relating to clean technology and
18 renewable energy that are consistent with current state energy
19 policy and priorities. Commencing in 2014, the report also shall
20 include pupil participation data and data collected for purposes of
21 academy certification under subdivision (e) of Section 54691.

22 (k) Up to 5 percent of the funds transferred to the Superintendent
23 pursuant to this article may be expended to pay the costs incurred
24 in the administration of this article.

25 54699.1. This article shall become inoperative on June 30,
26 2017, and, as of January 1, 2018, is repealed, unless a later enacted
27 statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2018,
28 deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and
29 is repealed.

30 SEC. 2. This act addresses the fiscal emergency declared and
31 reaffirmed by the Governor by proclamation on January 20, 2011,
32 pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 10 of Article IV of the
33 California Constitution.

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