

Senate Bill No. 1316

CHAPTER 67

An act to amend Section 46141 of, and to add Section 46146.5 to, the Education Code, relating to school attendance.

[Approved by Governor July 9, 2012. Filed with Secretary
of State July 9, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1316, Hancock. School attendance: early and middle college high schools.

Existing law provides that the minimum schoolday in any high school is 240 minutes, except for, among other entities, an evening high school, a regional occupational center, or a continuation high school.

This bill would also exempt an early college high school and a middle college high school from the 240-minute minimum schoolday. The bill would instead provide that a day of attendance for an early college high school pupil or middle college high school pupil is 180 minutes if the pupil is a special part-time student enrolled in a community college under specified provisions, or the pupil is in grades 11 and 12 and is also enrolled part time in classes of the California State University or the University of California. The bill would provide that a day of attendance for an early college high school pupil or middle college high school pupil who is neither a special part-time student enrolled in a community college nor enrolled part time in classes of the California State University or the University of California is 240 minutes. The bill would state findings and declarations regarding the pupils for whom an early college high school is designed and the key elements of an early college high school.

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

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

(a) Early college high schools are innovative partnerships between public secondary schools and local community colleges that allow pupils to earn a high school diploma and two years of college credit in five years or less.

(b) Early college high schools are small, autonomous schools that blend high school and college into a coherent educational program. Pupils begin taking college courses as soon as they demonstrate preparedness, and the credits earned can be applied toward completing an associate's degree, qualifying for transfer to a four-year university, or earning certification in a vocation that provides a family-sustaining wage.

(c) Early college high schools are designed for pupils from communities that are underrepresented in postsecondary education, including pupils who have not had access to the academic preparation needed to meet college readiness standards, pupils for whom the cost of college is prohibitive, pupils of color, first-generation college-bound pupils, and English learners.

(d) Early college high schools can be organized and operated in a variety of ways depending on the local needs of the school district, schoolsite, and community college.

(e) The key elements of an early college high school may include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A commitment to serve pupils underrepresented in postsecondary education.

(2) Being created and sustained by a local educational agency, a postsecondary institution, and the community, all of whom are jointly accountable for pupil success.

(3) In conjunction with postsecondary institution partners and the community, joint development of an integrated academic program so pupils are able to earn one to two years of transferable college credit that leads to college completion.

(4) The opportunity for pupils to earn a high school diploma and at least two years of college credit in five years or less. The two years of college credit should culminate in:

(A) An associate's degree.

(B) Completion of a vocational or occupational training program.

(C) Eligibility to transfer as a junior to a four-year college or university.

(5) A personalized learning environment with an effective pupil support network that develops academic and social skills as well as the behaviors and conditions necessary for college completion and maximum pupil success.

(6) A location on or near the partner community college campus where college services, facilities, and resources are available and welcoming to pupils attending an early college high school.

SEC. 2. Section 46141 of the Education Code is amended to read:

46141. The minimum schoolday in a high school is 240 minutes, except in an evening high school, an early college high school, a middle college high school, a regional occupational center, an opportunity school and in opportunity classes, a continuation high school, in continuation education classes, in late afternoon or Saturday occupationally organized vocational training programs conducted under a federally approved plan for vocational education, and for students enrolled in a work experience education program approved under the provisions of Article 7 (commencing with Section 51760) of Chapter 5 of Part 28.

SEC. 3. Section 46146.5 is added to the Education Code, to read:

46146.5. (a) A day of attendance for a pupil enrolled in grades 11 and 12 at an early college high school or middle college high school is 180 minutes of attendance if the pupil is also enrolled part time in classes of the California State University or the University of California for which

academic credit will be provided upon satisfactory completion of enrolled courses.

(b) A day of attendance for a pupil enrolled in an early college high school or middle college high school, who is also a special part-time student enrolled in a community college under Article 1 (commencing with Section 48800) of Chapter 5 of Part 27, and who will receive academic credit upon satisfactory completion of enrolled courses, is 180 minutes of attendance.

(c) A day of attendance for a pupil enrolled in an early college high school or middle college high school who does not satisfy subdivision (a) or (b) is 240 minutes of attendance.