

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 646

Introduced by Assembly Member Cooley

February 21, 2013

An act to add Chapter 1.3 (commencing with Section 10050) to Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code, relating to public education governance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 646, as amended, Cooley. Public education governance: ~~Regional~~ *regional P-20 councils: councils: advisory committee.*

Existing law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary schools in this state, and authorizes local educational agencies throughout the state to operate schools and provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive (K-12). Existing law also establishes a system of public postsecondary education in the state that consists of 3 segments: the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to affirm the employer-education partnership model of a regional P-20 council as a desired structure in California to help align preschool, K-12, community college, 4-year college, and graduate and professional education programs and funding to advance strategic educational and economic outcomes. ~~The~~

The bill would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, on or before July 1, 2015, to establish an advisory committee on P-20 councils, with designated membership, to serve as a clearinghouse for ideas of how these councils are working

and to identify key statewide education policies and goals that P-20 councils may seek to further. The bill would authorize a school district, community college district, or campus of the California State University or University of California to establish or participate in a regional P-20 council, and authorize a regional P-20 council to include representatives of private sector employers. The bill would require a regional P-20 council established under the bill to identify educational objectives that are consistent with the objectives of council members and with statewide education policies and goals.

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. Chapter 1.3 (commencing with Section 10050)
 2 is added to Part 7 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code,
 3 to read:

4
 5 CHAPTER 1.3. REGIONAL P-20 COUNCILS
 6

7 10050. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
 8 following:

9 (1) *The Federal Reserve has stated on its Internet Web site that*
 10 *“[m]ost policymakers estimate the longer-run normal rate of*
 11 *unemployment is between 5.2 and 6 percent.” The current rate of*
 12 *unemployment in the United States is 7.4 percent. The*
 13 *unemployment rates in both the County of Sacramento and*
 14 *California are higher than the national unemployment rate.*
 15 *According to a September 2013 brief by the California Budget*
 16 *Project, “[i]f California’s job market continues to grow as it has*
 17 *over the past year, the state will not recover the jobs lost due to*
 18 *the Great Recession until January 2016,” but that this also*
 19 *“understates how long it will actually take for the job market to*
 20 *reach pre-recession strength” due to California’s increased*
 21 *working-age population since 2007.*

22 (1)

23 (2) P-16 councils were first established in several states in the
 24 1990s to convene state leaders representing early learning (the “P”
 25 stands for preschool) through the first four years of college (the

1 “16”). More recently, some states have extended the scope of these
2 councils to include doctoral and professional schools (the “20”).

3 ~~(2)~~

4 (3) According to a 2008 report of the Education Commission
5 of the States, 38 states had established a P-16 or P-20 council and
6 11 states had regional P-16 or P-20 councils.

7 (4) *It is increasingly recognized that regions are the units of*
8 *economic competition and an essential ingredient of economic*
9 *competitiveness is for regions to align educational assets to*
10 *prepare students for critical careers within key economic clusters.*
11 *The Sacramento region’s Next Economy initiative is one example*
12 *of a regional economic development strategy advancing these*
13 *objectives.*

14 (5) *Recent research affirms that aligning regional assets is a*
15 *key to advancing economic competitiveness; a Brookings Institution*
16 *Metropolitan Policy Program study has noted that “[r]egional*
17 *economies are differentiated, complex, and dynamic; improving*
18 *their performance entails customized and integrated strategies.”*
19 *An educated and suitably prepared workforce is a key element in*
20 *private sector job creation and job-related capital investment.*

21 (6) *Several examples of effective P-20 councils can be found in*
22 *California, including the Alliance for Education in San Bernardino*
23 *County, which is the Inland Empire’s premier partnership between*
24 *the business and education communities. Its objective is “to achieve*
25 *the goal of producing an educated and skilled workforce that*
26 *ensures the economic well-being for San Bernardino County.”*

27 (7) *Recent state policy and funding priorities are intended to*
28 *promote the development and sustainability of pathways preparing*
29 *students across the P-20 spectrum for critical careers in the 21st*
30 *century economy.*

31 (8) *During hearings of the Assembly Select Committee on*
32 *Community and Neighborhood Development in July 2013,*
33 *witnesses stated that California’s future economic growth would*
34 *benefit from a concentrated effort aimed at establishing the*
35 *preconditions that support growth in jobs and private sector*
36 *investment in California communities. Such an approach would*
37 *be analogous to the high degree of regional coordination that is*
38 *typical for prioritizing and funding transportation improvements.*
39 *State and federal governments already require regional*

1 *coordination among local governments to prioritize transportation*
2 *funding.*

3 ~~(3)~~

4 (9) California will benefit from a system of regional P-20
5 councils, composed of both employers and educational leaders of
6 educational entities that provide instruction for all levels from
7 early childhood learning to doctoral and professional programs,
8 to help align educational programs, policies, and funding to meet
9 strategic educational and economic objectives.

10 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to affirm the
11 employer-education partnership model of a regional P-20 council
12 as a desired structure in California to help align preschool, K-12,
13 community college, four-year college, and graduate and
14 professional education programs and funding to advance strategic
15 educational and economic outcomes.

16 *10051. The Governor's Office of Business and Economic*
17 *Development, on or before July 1, 2015, shall establish an advisory*
18 *committee on P-20 councils to serve as a clearinghouse for ideas*
19 *of how these councils are working and to identify key statewide*
20 *education policies and goals that P-20 councils may seek to further.*
21 *The advisory committee shall include representatives of the offices*
22 *of the President of the University of California, the Chancellor of*
23 *the California State University, the Chancellor of the California*
24 *Community Colleges, the Employment Development Department,*
25 *the State Department of Education, the Department of Industrial*
26 *Relations, and representatives of no more than three employer*
27 *advisory councils.*

28 ~~10051.~~

29 *10052. (a) A school district, community college district, or*
30 *campus of the California State University or University of*
31 *California may establish or participate in a regional P-20 council,*
32 *which may include representatives of regional private sector*
33 *employers as well as public educational entities.*~~A~~

34 *(b) A regional P-20 council established under this section shall*
35 *identify educational objectives that are consistent with the*
36 *objectives of council members and with statewide education*
37 *policies and goals.*~~A~~

38 *(c) A regional P-20 council shall be aligned, as much as feasible,*
39 *with the regional structures in the State Department of Education,*

1 the California Community Colleges, and the Department of
2 Industrial Relations. ~~A~~
3 (d) A school district or community college district that
4 participates in a regional P-20 council may establish eligibility for
5 funding under the Career Technical Education Pathways Program
6 (Part 52 (commencing with Section 88530) of Division 7 of Title
7 3), contingent on the district's conformity with the standards of
8 that program and the availability of funds.

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