

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1764**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Olsen and Buchanan**

*(Principal coauthors: Senators Knight, Padilla, and Wyland)*

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bocanegra, Bonilla, Chau, Fong, Gordon, Gray, Hagman, Mullin, Stone, Wagner, and Wieckowski)*

*(Coauthors: Senators Hill and Huff)*

February 14, 2014

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An act to amend Section 51225.3 of the Education Code, relating to school curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1764, as amended, Olsen. School curriculum: mathematics: computer science.

Existing law requires each pupil completing grade 12 to satisfy certain requirements as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation from high school. These requirements include the successful passage of the high school exit examination and the completion of designated coursework in grades 9 to 12, inclusive. The coursework requirements include the completion of *at least 2* courses in mathematics. Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district to adopt additional coursework requirements.

This bill would authorize the governing board of a school district that requires more than 2 courses in mathematics *for graduation* to award a pupil up to one mathematics course credit for successfully completing an approved computer science course, as provided. The bill would prohibit the governing board of the school district from awarding the pupil mathematics course credit for an approved computer science

course if the governing board of the school district also awards the pupil credit for that course ~~in other specified subjects~~ *for purposes of the graduation requirement in science.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
 State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 51225.3 of the Education Code, as  
 2 amended by Section 2 of Chapter 324 of the Statutes of 2013, is  
 3 amended to read:

4 51225.3. (a) A pupil shall complete all of the following while  
 5 in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in order to receive a diploma of  
 6 graduation from high school:

7 (1) At least the following numbers of courses in the subjects  
 8 specified, each course having a duration of one year, unless  
 9 otherwise specified:

10 (A) Three courses in English.

11 (B) (i) Two courses in mathematics. If the governing board of  
 12 a school district requires more than two courses in mathematics  
 13 for graduation, the governing board of the school district may  
 14 award a pupil up to one mathematics course credit for successfully  
 15 completing a “category C” approved computer science course.  
 16 The governing board of the school district shall not award a pupil  
 17 mathematics course credit for a “category C” approved computer  
 18 science course if the governing board of the school district also  
 19 awards the pupil credit for that course ~~under~~ *pursuant to*  
 20 subparagraph (C) or (E).

21 (ii) For purposes of this paragraph, “category C” refers to the  
 22 “A-G” admission requirements for the California State University  
 23 and the University of California.

24 (C) Two courses in science, including biological and physical  
 25 sciences.

26 (D) Three courses in social studies, including United States  
 27 history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a  
 28 one-semester course in American government and civics; and a  
 29 one-semester course in economics.

30 (E) One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language,  
 31 or, commencing with the 2012–13 school year, career technical  
 32 education.

1 (i) For purposes of satisfying the requirement specified in this  
2 subparagraph, a course in American Sign Language shall be  
3 deemed a course in foreign language.

4 (ii) For purposes of this subparagraph, “a course in career  
5 technical education” means a course in a district-operated career  
6 technical education program that is aligned to the career technical  
7 model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the state  
8 board, including courses through a regional occupational center  
9 or program operated by a county superintendent of schools or  
10 pursuant to a joint powers agreement.

11 (iii) This subparagraph does not require a school or school  
12 district that currently does not offer career technical education  
13 courses to start new career technical education programs for  
14 purposes of this section.

15 (iv) If a school district or county office of education elects to  
16 allow a career technical education course to satisfy the requirement  
17 imposed by this subparagraph, the governing board of the school  
18 district or county office of education, before offering that  
19 alternative to pupils, shall notify parents, teachers, pupils, and the  
20 public at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing board of  
21 all of the following:

22 (I) The intent to offer career technical education courses to fulfill  
23 the graduation requirement specified in this subparagraph.

24 (II) The impact that offering career technical education courses,  
25 pursuant to this subparagraph, will have on the availability of  
26 courses that meet the eligibility requirements for admission to the  
27 California State University and the University of California, and  
28 whether the career technical education courses to be offered  
29 pursuant to this subparagraph are approved to satisfy those  
30 eligibility requirements. If a school district elects to allow a career  
31 technical education course to satisfy the requirement imposed by  
32 this subparagraph, the school district shall comply with subdivision  
33 (m) of Section 48980.

34 (III) The distinction, if any, between the high school graduation  
35 requirements of the school district or county office of education,  
36 and the eligibility requirements for admission to the California  
37 State University and the University of California.

38 (F) Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been  
39 exempted pursuant to the provisions of this code.

1 (2) Other coursework requirements adopted by the governing  
2 board of the school district.

3 (b) The governing board, with the active involvement of parents,  
4 administrators, teachers, and pupils, shall adopt alternative means  
5 for pupils to complete the prescribed course of study that may  
6 include practical demonstration of skills and competencies,  
7 supervised work experience or other outside school experience,  
8 career technical education classes offered in high schools, courses  
9 offered by regional occupational centers or programs,  
10 interdisciplinary study, independent study, and credit earned at a  
11 postsecondary educational institution. Requirements for graduation  
12 and specified alternative modes for completing the prescribed  
13 course of study shall be made available to pupils, parents, and the  
14 public.

15 (c) On or before July 1, 2017, the department shall submit a  
16 comprehensive report to the appropriate policy committees of the  
17 Legislature on the addition of career technical education courses  
18 to satisfy the requirement specified in subparagraph (E) of  
19 paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), including, but not limited to, the  
20 following information:

21 (1) A comparison of the pupil enrollment in career technical  
22 education courses, foreign language courses, and visual and  
23 performing arts courses for the 2005–06 to 2011–12 school years,  
24 inclusive, to the pupil enrollment in career technical education  
25 courses, foreign language courses, and visual and performing arts  
26 courses for the 2012–13 to 2016–17 school years, inclusive.

27 (2) The reasons, reported by school districts, that pupils give  
28 for choosing to enroll in a career technical education course to  
29 satisfy the requirement specified in subparagraph (E) of paragraph  
30 (1) of subdivision (a).

31 (3) The type and number of career technical education courses  
32 that were conducted for the 2005–06 to 2011–12 school years,  
33 inclusive, compared to the type and number of career technical  
34 education courses that were conducted for the 2012–13 to 2016–17  
35 school years, inclusive.

36 (4) The number of career technical education courses that  
37 satisfied the subject matter requirements for admission to the  
38 University of California or the California State University.

39 (5) The extent to which the career technical education courses  
40 chosen by pupils are aligned with the California Career Technical

1 Education Standards, and prepare pupils for employment, advanced  
2 training, and postsecondary education.

3 (6) The number of career technical education courses that also  
4 satisfy the visual and performing arts requirement, and the number  
5 of career technical education courses that also satisfy the foreign  
6 language requirement.

7 (7) Annual pupil dropout and graduation rates for the 2011–12  
8 to 2014–15 school years, inclusive.

9 (d) For purposes of completing the report described in  
10 subdivision (c), the Superintendent may use existing state resources  
11 and federal funds. If state or federal funds are not available or  
12 sufficient, the Superintendent may apply for and accept grants,  
13 and receive donations and other financial support from public or  
14 private sources for purposes of this section.

15 (e) For purposes of completing the report described in  
16 subdivision (c), the Superintendent may accept support, including,  
17 but not limited to, financial and technical support, from high school  
18 reform advocates, teachers, chamber organizations, industry  
19 representatives, research centers, parents, and pupils.

20 (f) This section shall become inoperative on the earlier of the  
21 following two dates:

22 (1) On July 1, immediately following the first fiscal year after  
23 the enactment of the act that adds this paragraph in which the  
24 number of career technical education courses that, as determined  
25 by the department, satisfy the foreign language requirement for  
26 admission to the California State University and the University of  
27 California is at least twice the number of career technical education  
28 courses that meet these admission requirements as of January 1,  
29 2012. This section shall be repealed on the following January 1,  
30 unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before  
31 that date, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes  
32 inoperative and is repealed. It is the intent of the Legislature that  
33 new career technical education courses that satisfy the foreign  
34 language requirement for admission to the California State  
35 University and the University of California focus on world  
36 languages aligned with career preparation, emphasizing real-world  
37 application and technical content in related career and technical  
38 education courses.

39 (2) On July 1, 2017, and, as of January 1, 2018, is repealed,  
40 unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before

1 January 1, 2018, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes  
2 inoperative and is repealed.

3 SEC. 2. Section 51225.3 of the Education Code, as amended  
4 by Section 3 of Chapter 324 of the Statutes of 2013, is amended  
5 to read:

6 51225.3. (a) A pupil shall complete all of the following while  
7 in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in order to receive a diploma of  
8 graduation from high school:

9 (1) At least the following numbers of courses in the subjects  
10 specified, each course having a duration of one year, unless  
11 otherwise specified:

12 (A) Three courses in English.

13 (B) (i) Two courses in mathematics. If the governing board of  
14 a school district requires more than two courses in mathematics  
15 for graduation, the governing board of the school district may  
16 award a pupil up to one mathematics course credit for successfully  
17 completing a “category C” approved computer science course.  
18 The governing board of the school district shall not award a pupil  
19 mathematics course credit for a “category C” approved computer  
20 science course if the governing board of the school district also  
21 awards the pupil credit for that course—~~under~~ *pursuant to*  
22 subparagraph (C) or (E).

23 (ii) For purposes of this subparagraph, “category C” refers to  
24 the “A-G” admission requirements for the California State  
25 University and the University of California.

26 (C) Two courses in science, including biological and physical  
27 sciences.

28 (D) Three courses in social studies, including United States  
29 history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a  
30 one-semester course in American government and civics; and a  
31 one-semester course in economics.

32 (E) One course in visual or performing arts or foreign language.  
33 For purposes of satisfying the requirement specified in this  
34 subparagraph, a course in American Sign Language shall be  
35 deemed a course in foreign language.

36 (F) Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been  
37 exempted pursuant to the provisions of this code.

38 (2) Other coursework requirements adopted by the governing  
39 board of the school district.

1 (b) The governing board, with the active involvement of parents,  
2 administrators, teachers, and pupils, shall adopt alternative means  
3 for pupils to complete the prescribed course of study that may  
4 include practical demonstration of skills and competencies,  
5 supervised work experience or other outside school experience,  
6 career technical education classes offered in high schools, courses  
7 offered by regional occupational centers or programs,  
8 interdisciplinary study, independent study, and credit earned at a  
9 postsecondary educational institution. Requirements for graduation  
10 and specified alternative modes for completing the prescribed  
11 course of study shall be made available to pupils, parents, and the  
12 public.

13 (c) If a pupil completed a career technical education course that  
14 met the requirements of subparagraph (E) of paragraph (1) of  
15 subdivision (a) of Section 51225.3, as amended by the act adding  
16 this section, before the inoperative date of that section, that course  
17 shall be deemed to fulfill the requirements of subparagraph (E) of  
18 paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of this section.

19 (d) This section shall become operative upon the date that  
20 Section 51225.3, as amended by the act adding this section,  
21 becomes inoperative.