

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2167**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi**

February 20, 2014

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An act to add Section 49416 to the Education Code, relating to pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2167, as amended, Muratsuchi. Pupils: California Healthy Kids Survey.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the State Board of Education, and the State Department of Education to provide to the State Chief Information Officer the individual nonpersonally identifiable or aggregate data related to, among other things, pupil assessment and accountability, including, but not limited to, data generated from, or related to, adequate yearly progress, graduation rates, pupils who drop out of school, and demographics of pupils and teachers.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the Governor, the Legislature, and the state board a report called the Annual Report on Dropouts in California that includes data on school climate and pupil engagement from the California Healthy Kids Survey.

This bill would establish the California Healthy Kids Survey as a *voluntary*, comprehensive pupil self-report data collection system that addresses school climate, campus safety, and pupil health risks and behaviors. The bill would authorize school districts to administer the survey *biennially* to pupils in certain grades, and would also authorize a school district to conduct 2 supplemental surveys, the California

School Parent Survey and the California School Climate Survey. The bill would specify that funds shall be appropriated to the department in the annual Budget Act or other statute to administer the survey, provide technical assistance, and collect data, as specified. The bill would specify that, to the extent that funds are appropriated to the department for these purposes, the department also shall administer and make available to school districts the California School Climate Survey and the California School Parent Survey. *The bill would specify various findings and declarations of the Legislature, including that school districts should administer the California Healthy Kids Survey biennially or annually, as specified.*

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. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:
- 3 (a) School climate is the learning conditions and quality of the  
4 environment that affect the attitudes, behaviors, and performance  
5 of both pupils and staff. School climate and safety significantly  
6 contribute to, or detract from, the overall academic success of  
7 pupils and the general well-being of our children.
- 8 (b) A growing body of research shows that school climate  
9 strongly influences pupils' motivation to learn and their academic  
10 achievement, as well as teacher job satisfaction and retention.
- 11 (c) A positive school climate promotes pupil engagement and  
12 helps reduce pupil truancy and chronic absence. Chronic absence  
13 is associated with lower pupil achievement and is a clear indicator  
14 for future drop-out.
- 15 (d) Methods to improve school climate often include shifting  
16 pupil discipline policies away from punitive suspension and  
17 expulsion policies to adopting alternative disciplinary measures,  
18 such as positive behavioral intervention or restorative justice  
19 programs that focus on early intervention. Punitive suspension and  
20 expulsion policies, such as zero tolerance policies, show no  
21 evidence of making schools safer and may increase youth  
22 involvement in the juvenile justice system, fail to address the root  
23 causes of behavior issues and underlying social and emotional

1 needs of pupils, and have been shown to disproportionately impact  
2 pupils of color and pupils with disabilities.

3 (e) The California Healthy Kids Survey of pupils, the California  
4 School Climate Survey of staff, and the California School Parent  
5 Survey form the California School Climate, Health, and Learning  
6 Survey (CAL-SCHLS) data collection system. The CAL-SCHLS  
7 suite of surveys provides a critical lens into the learning and  
8 teaching environments of our schools. It is an important planning  
9 and ~~monitoring~~ *evaluation* tool for pupil engagement, ~~resiliency,~~  
10 ~~at-risk behaviors,~~ and campus ~~safety:~~ *safety, bullying prevention,*  
11 *discipline, the promotion of resiliency, academic mindset, and*  
12 *other socioemotional competencies, and the reduction of at-risk*  
13 *behaviors.* It promotes school accountability and supports pupil,  
14 staff, parent, and community engagement efforts.

15 (f) The data collected from CAL-SCHLS is a tool for school  
16 districts to plan, implement, and evaluate progress made in meeting  
17 the state priorities of the local control and accountability plan  
18 pursuant to Section 52060 of the Education Code, specifically as  
19 it relates to school climate, pupil engagement, parent involvement,  
20 and in supporting vulnerable subgroups.

21 (g) *School districts should administer the California Healthy*  
22 *Kids Survey at least biennially to evaluate their progress in*  
23 *addressing pupil needs and meeting their local control and*  
24 *accountability plan goals, and administer it annually if evaluating*  
25 *the impact of programmatic interventions.*

26 SEC. 2. Section 49416 is added to the Education Code, to read:

27 49416. (a) The California Healthy Kids Survey is hereby  
28 established as a *voluntary* comprehensive pupil self-report data  
29 collection system that addresses school climate, campus safety,  
30 and pupil health risks and behaviors.

31 (b) A school district may administer the California Healthy Kids  
32 Survey ~~biennially~~ to pupils in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11.

33 (c) A school district may conduct both of the following  
34 supplemental surveys:

35 (1) The California School Parent Survey, which assesses the  
36 perceptions of parents related to school climate, parent outreach,  
37 and pupil achievement.

38 (2) The California School Climate Survey, which is a staff  
39 survey to guide school improvement efforts to foster positive  
40 learning and teaching environments.

- 1 (d) Before administering the California Healthy Kids Survey,  
2 a school district shall comply with the parent and guardian  
3 notification and consent provisions contained in Section 51513  
4 and subdivision (b) of Section 51938.
- 5 (e) Data collected through the California Healthy Kids Survey,  
6 the California School Climate Survey, and the California School  
7 Parent Survey shall be confidential.
- 8 (f) (1) Funds shall be appropriated to the department in the  
9 annual Budget Act or other statute to administer and make available  
10 the California Healthy Kids Survey, provide technical assistance  
11 to school districts, and collect and analyze data regarding local  
12 and statewide pupil health risks and behaviors, school  
13 connectedness, pupil supports, and school violence.
- 14 (2) To the extent that funds are appropriated to the department  
15 for these purposes, the department also shall administer and make  
16 available to school districts the California School Climate Survey  
17 and the California School Parent Survey.