

Introduced by Senator Steinberg
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Garcia)

February 21, 2013

An act to amend Sections 78910.10 and 78910.30 of the Education Code, relating to student instruction.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 520, as introduced, Steinberg. California Virtual Campus: leadership stakeholder meetings: representatives.

Existing law, until January 1, 2014, establishes the California Virtual Campus to facilitate ongoing collaboration and joint efforts relating to the use of technology resources and high-speed Internet connectivity to support teaching, learning, workforce development, and research. Existing law, until January 1, 2014, authorizes the California Virtual Campus grant recipient to convene at least 4 leadership stakeholder group meetings annually comprised of representatives from the State Department of Education, the California Technology Assistance Project, and other related programs administered through the department, including adult education, local education agencies, the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California, independent colleges and universities, the California State Library, and representatives from community-based organizations to ensure the efforts affecting segments represented are appropriately meeting the needs of those segments.

This bill would extend the provisions establishing the California Virtual Campus until January 1, 2017. This bill would require the representatives in the stakeholder group meetings from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California to include, but not be limited to, faculty members from

these institutions. This bill would make additional nonsubstantive changes in these provisions. By requiring faculty members from community college districts to attend these meetings, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 78910.10 of the Education Code is
 2 amended to read:
 3 78910.10. (a) (1) The California Virtual Campus, pursuant
 4 to funding provided to the Board of Governors of the California
 5 Community Colleges for this purpose in the annual Budget Act,
 6 may pursue all of the following purposes, to the extent funding is
 7 available:
 8 (A) To enrich formal and informal educational experiences and
 9 improve students’ academic performance by supporting the
 10 development of highly engaging, research-based innovations in
 11 teaching and learning in K–12 public schools and the California
 12 Community Colleges, the California State University, and the
 13 University of California.
 14 (B) To enhance the awareness of, and access to, highly engaging
 15 online courses of study, emphasizing courses of study that support
 16 a diverse and highly skilled science, technology, engineering, and
 17 mathematics workforce.
 18 (C) To support education research, the implementation of
 19 research-based practices, and promote economic development
 20 through the use of next generation advanced network infrastructure,
 21 services, and network technologies that enable collaboration and
 22 resource sharing between formal and informal educators in K–12
 23 public schools, the California Community Colleges, the California
 24 State University, the University of California, independent colleges

1 and universities, public libraries, and community-based
2 organizations at locations across the state.

3 (D) To increase access to next generation Internet services, 21st
4 century workforce development programs, and e-government
5 services for students and staff served or employed by education
6 entities and students served primarily online through partnerships
7 with public libraries and community-based organizations.

8 (E) To enhance access to health care education and training
9 programs to current or future health care workers.

10 (F) To manage digital assets and develop contracts for services
11 necessary to provide the technical and management support needed
12 to maximize the benefits of the high-speed, high-bandwidth
13 network infrastructure available to public higher education entities
14 in California.

15 (G) Through the aggregation of demand for network enabled
16 technologies and related services from public education entities,
17 and through partnerships with the private sector, to provide
18 education entities with access to technical support and staff who
19 can facilitate statewide efforts that support innovations in teaching
20 and learning that are necessary to provide for a well-educated
21 citizenry, and economic and 21st century workforce development.

22 (2) To accomplish the purposes of paragraph (1), the California
23 Virtual Campus may partner with local educational agencies, the
24 State Department of Education, the 11 regional California
25 Technology Assistance Projects, the California Community
26 Colleges, the California State University, the University of
27 California, independent colleges and universities, public libraries,
28 and community-based organizations to facilitate ongoing
29 collaboration and joint efforts relating to the use of technology
30 resources and high-speed Internet connectivity to support teaching,
31 learning, workforce development, and research.

32 (3) Efforts conducted as a result of this chapter shall not prohibit
33 or otherwise exclude the ability of existing or new educational
34 technology programs from being developed, expanded, or
35 enhanced.

36 (b) For purposes of this article, the following terms have the
37 following meanings:

38 (1) “Online courses of study” means any of the following:

39 (A) Online teaching, learning, and research resources, including,
40 but not necessarily limited to, books, course materials, video

1 materials, interactive lessons, tests, or software, the copyrights of
2 which have expired, or have been released with an intellectual
3 property license that permits their free use or repurposing by others
4 without the permission of the original authors or creators of the
5 learning materials or resources.

6 (B) Professional development opportunities for formal and
7 informal educators who desire to use the resources in subparagraph
8 (A).

9 (C) Online instruction.

10 (2) “Online instruction” means technology enabled online real
11 time (synchronous) interaction between the instructor and the
12 student, near time (asynchronous) interaction between the instructor
13 and the student, or any combination thereof.

14 (c) The California Virtual Campus grant recipient may
15 accomplish all of the following:

16 (1) Convene at least four leadership stakeholder group meetings
17 annually ~~comprised~~ *composed* of representatives from the State
18 Department of Education, the California Technology Assistance
19 Project, and other related programs administered through the
20 department, ~~local education agencies~~, including adult education,
21 *local education agencies*, the California Community Colleges, the
22 California State University, the University of California,
23 independent colleges and universities, the California State Library,
24 and representatives from community-based organizations to ensure
25 the efforts affecting segments represented are appropriately meeting
26 the needs of those segments. The leadership stakeholder group
27 shall also coordinate and obtain assistance with the implementation
28 of efforts delineated in this article, to identify and maintain an
29 up-to-date list of the technology resources and tools that are
30 necessary to support innovation in teaching and learning, and to
31 identify opportunities for leveraging resources and expertise for
32 meeting those needs in an efficient and cost-effective manner. *For*
33 *purposes of this paragraph, the representatives from the California*
34 *Community Colleges, the California State University, and the*
35 *University of California shall include, but not be limited to, faculty*
36 *members from these institutions.*

37 (2) Lead efforts to make online courses of study available across
38 the state that include, but are not limited to, the following:

39 (A) Developing online courses of study that are pedagogically
40 sound and fully accessible, in compliance with the federal

1 Americans with Disabilities Act (Public Law 101-336), by students
2 with varying learning styles and disabilities.

3 (i) The development of K–12 online courses pursuant to this
4 subparagraph shall be achieved in partnership with local education
5 agencies and the California Technology Assistance Project.

6 (ii) Online courses developed for grades K–12 pursuant to this
7 subparagraph shall be aligned to the California academic content
8 standards and guidelines for online courses.

9 (B) Overseeing the development of at least 12 model online
10 courses of study that, collectively, would allow students to meet
11 the requirements of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer
12 Curriculum (IGETC) and at least two courses that support basic
13 skills education courses in English, English as a second language,
14 or mathematics.

15 (C) Encouraging the entities listed in paragraph (1) to do both
16 of the following:

17 (i) Make accessible to each other their courses of study that are
18 funded by the state.

19 (ii) Allow their courses of study to be accessible to the general
20 public if they determine access would not inhibit their ability to
21 provide appropriate protection of the state’s intellectual property
22 rights.

23 (3) Ensure that the learning objects created as part of the
24 California Virtual Campus online courses of study with state
25 General Fund revenues are linked to digital content libraries that
26 include information about course content freely available to
27 California educators and students.

28 (4) Develop formal partnership agreements between the entities
29 listed in paragraph (1) and the California Virtual Campus, including
30 course articulation agreements that allow qualified high school
31 students to accelerate the completion of requirements for a high
32 school diploma and a two-year or four-year degree and agreements
33 that provide opportunities for part-time faculty teaching online to
34 obtain full-time employment teaching online.

35 (5) Develop formal partnership agreements with the entities
36 listed in paragraph (1) and others to enhance access to professional
37 development courses that introduce faculty, teachers, staff, and
38 college course developers to the conceptual development, creation,
39 and production methodologies that underlie the development of
40 online courses of study and support students’ successful completion

- 1 of those courses. The professional development opportunities may
2 include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:
- 3 (A) Addressing issues relating to copyright, permission for the
4 use or reuse of material, use of resources in the public domain,
5 and other intellectual property concepts.
- 6 (B) Accessibility for students with disabilities.
- 7 (C) Factors to ensure that content is culturally relevant to a
8 diverse student body.
- 9 (D) Delivery options that incorporate multiple learning styles
10 and strategies.
- 11 (6) Develop formal partnership agreements with entities,
12 including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph (1), to ensure
13 access to online professional learning communities that incorporate
14 the use of Internet-based collaboration tools and to support joint
15 discussions between K–12 educators, higher education faculty and
16 staff, and others to examine student performance data, student
17 learning objectives, curriculum, and other issues that relate to
18 students' academic success and preparation for the workforce.
- 19 (7) In partnership with entities, including those listed in
20 paragraph (1), develop an e-portfolio system that allows
21 participating students to demonstrate their attainment of academic
22 learning objectives, skills and knowledge that relate to their career
23 interests, and completion of prerequisites for participation in
24 courses or training programs. The e-portfolio system may do all
25 of the following:
- 26 (A) Ensure that student privacy is protected in accordance with
27 existing law.
- 28 (B) Comply with accessibility laws for students with disabilities.
- 29 (C) Be designed in a manner that supports the use of e-portfolio
30 content in the accreditation requirements of schools, colleges, and
31 universities.
- 32 (8) In partnership with entities, including those listed in
33 paragraph (1), identify opportunities to enhance students' access
34 to medical education and medical services through the use of
35 high-speed Internet connections to the campuses, and opportunities
36 for education programs and services to support the telehealth efforts
37 taking place within the state.
- 38 (d) The lead agency for the California Virtual Campus, in
39 consultation with the leadership stakeholder group described in
40 paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) if that group is convened by the

1 California Virtual Campus grant recipient, shall contract with an
2 independent third party with expertise in online teaching, learning,
3 and the development of online courses of study, as approved by
4 the board, to evaluate the California Virtual Campus. The
5 evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, an assessment of
6 the number of faculty, teachers, consortia, informal educators, and
7 students that use the online courses of study, the quality of students'
8 experiences, student grades earned, and the cost of the online
9 course content, comparing the online course content with traditional
10 textbooks. The board may require additional information that it
11 determines to be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness and
12 viability of the California Virtual Campus. This evaluation shall
13 be submitted to the Legislature no later than three years after the
14 enactment of this act.

15 SEC. 2. Section 78910.30 of the Education Code is amended
16 to read:

17 78910.30. This article shall remain in effect until January 1,
18 ~~2014~~, 2017, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
19 statute, that is enacted before January 1, ~~2014~~, 2017, deletes or
20 extends that date.

21 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
22 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
23 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
24 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
25 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.