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AB-1299 Community colleges: Compton Community College District. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Bill No. 1299

CHAPTER 757

An act to add Section 74295.5 to the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

[Approved by Governor October 13, 2017. Filed with Secretary of State October 13, 2017.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1299, Gipson. Community colleges: Compton Community College District.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. Existing law requires the board of governors to appoint a chief executive officer, known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. Existing law provides for the establishment of community college districts throughout the state, including the Compton Community College District. Existing law authorizes these districts to provide instruction to students at the campuses operated by these districts.

Existing law authorizes the board of governors to suspend the authority of the Board of Trustees of the Compton Community College District for a period lasting until June 30, 2011, plus a period lasting until the chancellor, the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, the Director of Finance, and the Governor concur with the special trustee that the district, for 2 consecutive academic years, has met certain requirements relating to a comprehensive assessment and a recovery plan. Existing law, in the event of a suspension, authorizes the chancellor to appoint a special trustee to manage the district, as specified.

Existing law prescribes various procedures to address the termination of Compton Community College's accreditation by the regional accrediting body recognized by the board of governors and, after the college's accreditation is terminated, requires the board of governors to approve the facilities of Compton Community College as an off-campus educational center of a partner district. Pursuant to existing law, the facilities formerly operated by the Compton Community College District have instead been operated by a partner district as El Camino College Compton Center.

This bill would apply all of the following provisions to students enrolled at El Camino College Compton Center 6 months before the change in control of that institution from the El Camino Community College District to the Compton Community College District: (A) require the Compton Community College District to ensure that any student of El Camino College Compton Center who, by the end of the spring term immediately preceding the change in control of the institution, has completed at least 75% of the courses required for the degree or certificate that he or she is pursuing shall be able to complete that program at Compton College; (B) require the Compton Community College District to consider each student of El Camino College Compton Center who enrolls for classes at Compton College to be a continuing student for purposes of enrollment priorities; and (C) regulations of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges relating to minimum residence at a community college granting a degree shall not be applicable to these students.

Because this bill would impose new duties on the Compton Community College District, it would constitute a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires California community college districts to expend, during each fiscal year, 50% of the district's current expense of education for payment of classroom instructors' salaries.

This bill would exempt the Compton Community College District from this requirement for academic years 2018–19 to 2021–22, inclusive.

(3) This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the Compton Community College District.

(4) 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 no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 74295.5 is added to the Education Code, to read:

74295.5. Notwithstanding any other law:

(a) All of the following shall be applicable to a student who is enrolled at El Camino College Compton Center six months before the change in control of that institution from the El Camino Community College District to the Compton Community College District:

(1) The Compton Community College District shall ensure that any student of El Camino College Compton Center who, by the end of the spring term immediately preceding the change in control of the institution, has completed at least 75 percent of the courses required for the degree or certificate that he or she is pursuing shall be able to complete that program at Compton College. The Compton Community College District shall make every reasonable effort to allow other students who have begun work toward a certificate or degree, but who have not completed 75 percent of the required coursework, to continue and complete their programs at Compton College.

(2) The Compton Community College District shall consider each student of El Camino College Compton Center who enrolls for classes at Compton College to be a continuing student for purposes of enrollment priorities.

(3) Regulations of the board of governors relating to minimum residence at a community college granting a degree shall not be applicable to these students.

(b) For academic years 2018–19 to 2021–22, inclusive, the Compton Community College District shall be exempt from subdivision (d) of Section 84362.

SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique circumstances of the Compton Community College District. The enactment of Section 1 of this act is therefore necessary.

SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district are the result of a program for which legislative authority was requested by that local agency or school district, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code and Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.