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AB-1786 Community colleges: academic credit for prior military experience. (2017-2018)

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Date Published: 09/19/2018 09:00 PM

Assembly Bill No. 1786

CHAPTER 530

An act to amend Section 66025.7 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

[Approved by Governor September 19, 2018. Filed with Secretary of State September 19, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1786, Cervantes. Community colleges: academic credit for prior military experience.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction at the campuses they operate.

Existing law requires the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, using common course descriptors and pertinent recommendations of the American Council on Education, to determine, by July 1, 2015, for which courses credit should be awarded for prior military experience.

This bill would instead require the chancellor to establish, by March 31, 2019, an initiative to expand the use of course credit at the California Community Colleges for students with prior learning. The bill would require the chancellor to submit, by January 1, 2020, a report on the initiative to the Legislature.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 66025.7 of the Education Code is amended to read:

66025.7. (a) By March 31, 2019, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall establish an initiative to expand the use of course credit at the California Community Colleges for students with prior learning. The initiative shall identify best practices for the use of course credit for students with prior learning, locate and collect available resources, and provide professional development in connection with the identified best practices. The initiative shall identify the best practices for purposes of establishing potential pilot programs and shall provide recommendations for internal systemwide policy changes to expand the use of course credit at the California Community Colleges for students with prior learning.

(b) (1) By January 1, 2020, the chancellor shall submit a report to the Legislature, pursuant to Section 9795 of the Government Code, on the initiative described in subdivision (a), including, but not limited to, activities established by the initiative. The report shall include recommendations for legislative policy changes necessary to implement the best practices identified by the initiative.

(2) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under paragraph (1) is inoperative on January 1, 2024, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.