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AB-3101 Community colleges. (2017-2018)

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

Assembly Bill No. 3101

CHAPTER 553

An act to add Sections 68086 and 71030 to the Education Code, relating to community college.

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3101, Carrillo. Community colleges.

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, administered by governing boards, throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction to students at the community college campuses maintained by the districts. Existing law requires each student to be classified as a resident or nonresident at a California community college.

This bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, on or before July 31, 2019, to revise the California community college online application process so that only data that is required by the federal government, state law, or that is otherwise necessary, as determined by the chancellor, is collected during the process. The bill would authorize the chancellor, to the extent that data can be collected from the student at a later time, to delay the collection of that data until after the student has applied to a community college. The bill would exempt a student seeking to enroll exclusively in career development and college preparation courses, and other courses for which no credit is given, at a community college from community college residency classification requirements.

To the extent this bill would impose additional duties on community college districts, the 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 the statutory provisions noted above.

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

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

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The online system by which students apply to community colleges can be cumbersome and create a barrier to access for some students who are seeking to access community college.

(b) On average, the application process takes a student 45 minutes to complete due to the amount of information it requests.

(c) The state has documented an average abandonment rate of 5 percent, and ranging up to 14 percent at some community colleges, in regards to the number of students who begin the application process, but fail to complete it.

(d) In response, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges is undertaking a review of the online application system to ensure that it supports students through the community college application and enrollment process. The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges plans to implement changes to the online application system by the fall of 2019.

SEC. 2. Section 68086 is added to the Education Code, to read:

68086. (a) A student seeking to enroll exclusively in career development and college preparation courses, and other courses for which no credit is given, at a community college shall not be subject to the residency classification requirements of Article 3 (commencing with Section 68040).

(b) Nothing in subdivision (a) shall prohibit the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges from collecting residency data, for a student described in subdivision (a), that is voluntarily submitted by the student after he or she enrolls at a community college.

SEC. 3. Section 71030 is added to the Education Code, to read:

71030. On or before July 31, 2019, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall revise the California community college online application process so that only data that is required by the federal government, state law, or that is otherwise necessary, as determined by the chancellor, is collected during the process. To the extent that data can be collected from the student at a later time, the chancellor may delay the collection of that data until after the student has applied to a community college.

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