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AB-22 Preschool data: data collection. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Bill No. 22

CHAPTER 901

An act to add Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 60910) to Part 33 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to education data.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2022. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 2022.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 22, McCarty. Preschool data: data collection.

The Early Education Act, among other things, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer all California state preschool programs, including, but not limited to, part-day and full-day age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate programs for 3- and 4-year-old children. Existing law authorizes a school district or charter school to maintain a transitional kindergarten program, defined as the first year of a 2-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. Existing law requires a school district or charter school, as a condition of receipt of apportionment for pupils in a transitional kindergarten program, to admit children who meet certain age requirements, as provided.

Existing law establishes the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System, which is maintained by the State Department of Education and consists of pupil data from elementary and secondary schools, as specified, relating to demographics, program participation, enrollment, and statewide assessments, among other things. Existing law requires the system to be used to accomplish specified goals, including to provide an efficient, flexible, and secure means of maintaining statewide pupil level data, as provided.

This bill would require the department, by July 1, 2024, to collect pupil data for each pupil enrolled in a California state preschool program operated by a local educational agency, including all applicable data elements that are collected for pupils in transitional kindergarten, as provided. The bill would also require the department, by July 1, 2024, to collect the same data for educators in a California state preschool program operated by a local educational agency that is collected for educators in the K–12 classroom setting, as provided.

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

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

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(1) Quality early learning and care for children from birth to five years of age, inclusive, is a sound and strategic investment to narrow achievement gaps that are present well before children enter kindergarten.

(2) In alignment with the state's goal of providing access to quality early learning opportunities for every four-year-old child in California, the Budget Act of 2021 expanded universal access to transitional kindergarten for all four year olds in California by the 2025–26 school year.

(3) The expansion of universal transitional kindergarten is predicted to create over 28,000 new teaching and staffing positions.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to increase and create new opportunities for the early learning workforce through universal transitional kindergarten and a strengthened and integrated mixed delivery early learning and care system that provides multiple pathways for California's early learning professionals, who are supported by compensation that recognizes their expertise, ongoing professional development to support their career advancement, and teaching models that leverage their invaluable knowledge and skills for the benefit of young learners.

(c) It is further the intent of the Legislature to collect data necessary to understand the impact of transitional kindergarten on California's early education system, including the educational settings in which students are served and shifts in the early care and education and K–12 educator workforce.

SEC. 2. Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 60910) is added to Part 33 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code, to read:

CHAPTER 11. Preschool Data

60910. By July 1, 2024, the department shall collect the following data:

(a) Pupil data for each pupil enrolled in a California state preschool program operated by a local educational agency, including all applicable data elements that are collected for pupils in transitional kindergarten pursuant to Section 48000, which, in combination with the data collected pursuant to Section 60900, will provide longitudinal pupil data for pupils enrolled in state preschool programs operated by local educational agencies through grade 12.

(b) The same data for educators in California state preschool programs operated by a local educational agency that is collected for educators in the K–12 classroom setting, to the extent that data is collected.