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ACR-36 California's regional occupational centers and programs. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 36

CHAPTER 55

Relative to California's regional occupational centers and programs.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 01, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 36, O'Donnell. California's regional occupational centers and programs.

This measure would commemorate California's regional occupational centers and programs for over 50 years of service to students, industry, and communities.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, For the last 50 years, California's regional occupational centers and programs (ROC/Ps) have been promoting and supporting the regional delivery of exemplary career education, career development, and workforce preparation that contributes to student academic and career success and to the economic development of California; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps provide students with valuable career technical education (CTE) so those students can enter the workforce with the skills and competencies needed to be successful, pursue advanced training in postsecondary institutions, and upgrade their existing skills and knowledge; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps have been operated by school districts, consortia of districts operating under joint powers agreements, or by county offices of education; and

WHEREAS, ROC/P courses may be offered during the regular schoolday, before or after the regular schoolday, or during summer or intersession breaks; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps have been a major factor in assisting students to prepare for careers and college by offering CTE pathways, access and equity for all students to participate in real-world instruction, many courses that meet "A–G" admission requirements, and courses that offer college credit through articulation and dual enrollment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps offer courses that are part of a sequence of courses, that lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate, or appropriate postsecondary training or employment, and that as much as possible meet "A–G" admissions requirements; and

WHEREAS, A course in an ROC/P must do all of the following:

- (a) Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction aligned with state standards.
- (b) Provide career exploration and guidance.

(c) Provide support and leadership development for pupils.

(d) Be guided by industry partnerships and advisory committees, and build system alignment and coherence, including with postsecondary institutions.

(e) Participate in a strong regional collaborative structure with postsecondary institutions, business, labor, and other appropriate community partners.

(f) Provide a broad range of work-based learning opportunities.

(g) Reflect labor market demands.

(h) Focus on current or emerging high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations.

(i) Be staffed by qualified, credentialed CTE teachers.

(j) Provide professional development to skilled faculty and staff.

(k) Provide CTE outreach and communication to its students, families, and business partners in the region.

(l) Support data-based pupil evaluation, accountability, and continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps have served as many as 500,000 students each year during the last 50 years; and

WHEREAS, ROC/P students represent the full diversity of California, both rural and urban communities, and all geographic regions of the state; and

WHEREAS, Students who enroll in CTE classes are more likely to graduate or transition into postsecondary opportunities at a consistently higher rate than students who do not participate in CTE learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, California's private sector businesses have been long-time supporters of California's ROC/Ps; and

WHEREAS, Business and industry representatives provide subject matter expertise, serve on advisory boards, and support a rigorous industry-approved curriculum; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps maintain ongoing relationships with businesses who invest in ROC/P students' successes through an array of work-based learning strategies, including providing hands-on real-world experiences, internships, guest speakers, job shadowing, and mentoring; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps have worked with and provided skilled workers to thousands of private businesses and public enterprises each year; and

WHEREAS, ROC/Ps employ thousands of highly qualified CTE professionals, including teachers, administrators, counselors, and support staff, all of whom benefit from a close professional network and professional development opportunities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature commemorates California's regional occupational centers and programs for over 50 years of service to students, industry, and communities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.