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AB-2834 Public postsecondary education: part-time faculty. (2023-2024)

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Assembly Bill No. 2834

CHAPTER 418

An act to amend Section 87482.8 of, and to add Section 89516.5 to, the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

[Approved by Governor September 22, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 22, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2834, Rendon. Public postsecondary education: part-time faculty.

Existing law establishes the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as 2 of the public segments of postsecondary education in the state. Existing law provides for the employment and retention of faculty at these institutions.

Existing law requires the governing board of a community college district to employ each academic employee as a contract employee, regular employee, or temporary employee. Existing law authorizes the Trustees of the California State University to establish rules and regulations that allow academic teaching employees, librarians, counselors, and student affairs officers to reduce their workload from full-time to part-time duties, as specified.

Existing law expresses various policy preferences of the Legislature with respect to part-time community college faculty, including preferences related to advance notice of assignments, pay for the first week of an assignment, the listing of names in the schedule of classes, and other rights normally afforded to full-time faculty, as provided.

This bill would revise the policy preferences of the Legislature with respect to part-time community college faculty to express the preference that the names of part-time faculty be listed in the schedule of classes and the course schedule provided to students, faculty, and staff, once they are assigned to a course. The bill also would express all of the community college part-time faculty preferences, as amended by the bill, with respect to part-time California State University faculty.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 87482.8 of the Education Code is amended to read:

87482.8. Whenever possible:

(a) Part-time faculty should be informed of assignments at least six weeks in advance.

(b) Part-time faculty should be paid for the first week of an assignment when class is canceled less than two weeks before the beginning of a semester. If a class meets more than once per week, part-time faculty should be paid for all classes that were scheduled for that week.

(c) The names of part-time faculty, once they are assigned to a course, should be listed in the schedule of classes rather than just described as "staff" or "faculty."

(d) The names of part-time faculty, once they are assigned to a course, should be listed in the course schedule provided to students, faculty, and staff, rather than just described as "staff" or "faculty."

(e) Part-time faculty should be considered to be an integral part of their departments and given all the rights normally afforded to full-time faculty in the areas of book selection, participation in department activities, and the use of college resources, including, but not limited to, telephones, copy machines, supplies, office space, mailboxes, clerical staff, library, and professional development.

SEC. 2. Section 89516.5 is added to the Education Code, to read:

89516.5. Whenever possible:

(a) Part-time faculty should be informed of assignments at least six weeks in advance.

(b) Part-time faculty should be paid for the first week of an assignment when class is canceled less than two weeks before the beginning of a semester. If a class meets more than once per week, part-time faculty should be paid for all classes that were scheduled for that week.

(c) The names of part-time faculty, once they are assigned to a course, should be listed in the schedule of classes rather than just described as "staff" or "faculty."

(d) The names of part-time faculty, once they are assigned to a course, should be listed in the course schedule provided to students, faculty, and staff, rather than just described as "staff" or "faculty."

(e) Part-time faculty should be considered to be an integral part of their departments and given all the rights normally afforded to full-time faculty in the areas of book selection, participation in department activities, and the use of college resources, including, but not limited to, telephones, copy machines, supplies, office space, mailboxes, clerical staff, library, and professional development.