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SB-226 Community colleges: territory transfers between districts. (2025-2026)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE — 2025-2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 226

Introduced by Senator Cabaldon

January 28, 2025

An act to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 74298) to Chapter 5 of Part 46 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 226, as introduced, Cabaldon. Community colleges: territory transfers between districts.

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 the state. The segment comprises 73 community college districts and a total of 116 community colleges throughout the state. Existing law establishes requirements and procedures for the initiation and approval of proposals to reorganize community college districts through the transfer of territory between existing districts.

This bill, notwithstanding certain requirement and procedure provisions described above, would authorize the board of governors to approve the transfer of territory, in whole or in part, from specified community college districts to another district upon its own initiative or upon the filing of a petition by the governing board of a district or the county committee on school district organization for the county where territory would be transferred. The bill would require the board of governors to ensure that a transfer of territory and any necessary agreements between the community college districts comply with and meet the requirements of specified provisions of existing state law, including, among others, that the reorganization of any district or districts does not affect the classification of academic employees already employed by any district affected and that the transfer agreement provides for the allocation of funds, property, and obligations affected by the transfer, 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. Article 6 (commencing with Section 74298) is added to Chapter 5 of Part 46 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 6. Special Transfer of Territory

- **74298.** (a) This article shall only apply to the transfer of territory from a community college district that meets both of the following criteria:
 - (1) The community college district is located in a county whose territory is divided among three or more community college districts and a majority of the population residing in the territory of each of those districts is located in one or more other counties.
 - (2) The community college district territory is being transferred, in whole or in part, to one of the districts described in paragraph (1).
- (b) Notwithstanding Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 74100) and Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 74201), the transfer of territory to another community college district pursuant to this article may be approved by the board of governors upon its own initiative or upon the filing of a petition by the governing board of a district or the county committee on school district organization for the county where territory would be transferred.
- (c) In approving a transfer of territory pursuant to this article, the board of governors shall ensure that the transfer of territory and any necessary agreements between the community college districts comply with and meet the requirements of Article 2 (commencing with Section 74270), Article 3 (commencing with Section 74280), and Article 4 (commencing with Section 74290).
- (d) An action to transfer territory that is approved by the board of governors pursuant to this article shall be deemed as approved for purposes of Section 74250, without election.