

Assembly Bill No. 2261

Ruskin. Community colleges: open education resources centers

CHAPTER 671

An act to add and repeal Article 2 (commencing with Section 78910) of Chapter 7 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2008. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 2008.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2261, Ruskin. Community colleges: open education resources centers.

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 throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

This bill would express findings and declarations of the Legislature relating to open education resources, as defined. The bill would authorize the board of governors to establish a pilot program to provide faculty and staff from community college districts around the state with the information, methods, and instructional materials to establish open education resources centers. The bill would define open education resources for its purposes. The bill would specify that a lead community college district be selected from community college district applicants based upon a demonstration of its ability to accomplish specified objectives. The bill would require participating districts to report program information to the Chancellor's office of the California Community Colleges, who would be required to report the findings to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1, 2012. The bill would specify that no additional state appropriation may be requested or provided for purposes of this act.

The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2012.

DIGEST KEY

Vote: MAJORITY Appropriation: NO Fiscal Committee: YES Local Program: NO

BILL TEXT

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

SECTION 1.

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Open education resources are learning materials or resources whose copyrights have expired, or that have been released with an intellectual property license that permits their free use or repurposing by others without the permission of the original authors or creators. Open education resources include items such as courses, course materials, textbooks, streaming video of classroom lectures, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to transmit knowledge that have an impact on teaching and learning.

(b) Community colleges need to take greater advantage of open education resources, especially for basic skills and general education classes, including, but not limited to, algebra, that use course content that remains generally unchanged over time.

SECTION 2.

Article 2 (commencing with Section 78910) is added to Chapter 7 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

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Article 2. Open Education Resources Centers

78910.

(a) The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges is authorized to establish a pilot program to provide faculty and staff from community college districts around the state with the information, methods, and instructional materials to establish open education resources centers. Community colleges participating in the pilot program shall support program costs through existing state funds appropriated for purposes consistent with this program, or through federal and private funding. The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges may designate a lead community college district to coordinate the planning and development of the pilot program.

(b) For purposes of this article, “open education resources” are learning materials or resources, including, but not necessarily limited to, books, course materials, video materials, tests, or software, the copyrights of which have expired, or have been released with an intellectual property license that permits their free use or repurposing by others without the permission of the original authors or creators of the learning materials or resources.

(c) The lead community college district specified in subdivision (a) shall be selected from community college district applicants based upon a demonstration of its ability to accomplish all of the following:

(1) Develop and implement a model for the creation of open education resources (OER) course content that is pedagogically sound and fully accessible, in compliance with the federal Americans With Disabilities Act (Public Law 101-336), by students with varying learning styles and disabilities.

(2) Develop community college model OER courses and instructional materials that meet the requirements of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or of basic skills education courses in English, English as a second language, or mathematics, or that meet the requirements of both the IGETC and the basic skills education courses.

(3) Develop a community college professional development course that introduces faculty, staff, and college course developers to the concept, creation, content, and production methodologies that enable OER to be offered to students in community college classes, including, but not necessarily limited to, all of the following:

(A) Substitutes for textbooks.

(B) Addressing issues relating to copyright, the obtaining of permission for use of material, and other intellectual property concepts.

(C) Accessibility for students with disabilities.

(D) Delivery options that incorporate multiple learning styles and strategies.

(4) Create an OER information repository to serve as the single point of contact for information about community college OER, the public domain, OER courses and course materials, research and production processes, and professional resources for creating and repurposing OER.

(5) Identifying sources of adequate funding to accomplish paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive.

(d) Participating districts shall report to the Chancellor’s office of the California Community Colleges, upon request, on all of the following:

(1) The number of faculty and students who use OER in their courses.

(2) The quality of faculty and student experiences with OER compared to traditional courses.

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- (3) The grades earned in OER courses.
- (4) The cost of OER course materials compared to non-OER materials.
- (e) The Chancellor's office of the California Community Colleges shall report findings made pursuant to subdivision (d) to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1, 2012.
- (f) No additional state appropriation shall be requested or provided for purposes of the section.

78910.5.

This article shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2012 , and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends that date.