AB 743, Block. California Community Colleges: common assessment system.
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. The Seymour-Campbell Matriculation
Act of 1986 requires, contingent on the appropriation of funds for the purposes of the
act, matriculation services to be made available by the colleges. The act requires those
services to include assessment and counseling upon enrollment, including
administration of assessment instruments to determine student competency in
computational and language skills. This bill would require the board to establish a
common assessment system with specified objectives, including selection of an existing
commercially available and centrally delivered system of student assessment, to be
used as one of multiple measures, consistent with specified law, for the purposes of
community college placement and advisement. The bill would require the Office of the
Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to work in collaboration with the
State Department of Education and the California State University when developing a
common college-readiness standard that will be reflected in the creation of assessment
instruments.
The bill requires the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to
submit a report to the Legislature and the Governor on the progress of implementation
of the common assessment system by December 31, 2012, and would require the
above provisions to become operative upon the receipt of state, federal, or philanthropic
funds to cover the costs of the common assessment system.