

Date of Hearing: March 14, 2017

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Jose Medina, Chair

AB 276 (Medina) – As Amended March 8, 2017

[Note: This bill is double-referred to the Assembly Committee on Privacy and Consumer Protection and will be heard as it relates to issues under its jurisdiction.]

SUBJECT: Postsecondary education: report: cybersecurity education and training programs

SUMMARY: This bill seeks information on the state of cybersecurity education and training programs at California's colleges and universities. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Requests that Regents of the University of California (UC), the Trustees of the California State University (CSU), the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges (CCC)—based on data provided by community college districts—and the state's independent institutions complete a report by January 1, 2019 regarding their respective cybersecurity training programs.
- 2) Requires the report to include a list of the educational institutions offering cybersecurity education and training and the specific programs offered at those institutions.
- 3) Requires all of the following for each program identified in (2):
 - a) Name of the degree or certificate offered and the total number of students currently enrolled;
 - b) Number of degrees and certificates awarded in each of the last three academic years, and whether the program is currently impacted;
 - c) Postgraduate employment rates, to the extent available;
 - d) Amount of any private funding provided for the program;
 - e) Examples of projected career paths for students in the programs;
 - f) A breakdown of current students and graduates, over the last three academic years, by ethnicity;
 - g) A description of each program, and;
 - h) The estimated time for completion of each program.
- 4) States that the intent of the report is to provide information to be used in determining the extent to which the state is meeting the workforce needs of the cybersecurity industry.

EXISTING LAW: Requires the Department of Technology, by July 1, 2018 and in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, to update the Technology Recovery Plan element of the State Administrative Manual to ensure the inclusion of cybersecurity strategy incident response

standards for each state agency to secure its critical infrastructure controls and critical infrastructure information. (Government Code Section 8592.35.)

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown.

COMMENTS:

Background and Purpose. According to the author's office, there are insufficient numbers of graduates in cybersecurity-related fields to fill industry employment demands. The website Cyberseek.org indicates that there are currently 45,000 openings for cybersecurity jobs in California and 350,000 nationwide. Examples of jobs in this field include information security analyst, penetration and vulnerability tester, incident analyst responder, operations research analyst, and computer network architect.

A recent economic analysis done for the industry in the San Diego region indicates that local cybersecurity employers have recently experienced, and continue to project, double-digit annual employment growth. Most employers, however, cited having at least some difficulty hiring qualified cybersecurity employees.

While numerous California colleges and university currently offer cybersecurity degree and certificate programs, including some online programs, this bill seeks to gather comprehensive information on the types and scale of these programs. Obtaining this baseline data will help the state to determine how best to meet industry employment needs going forward.

Related Legislation. AB 364 (Chau), pending in Privacy and Consumer Protection, requires the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development by July 1, 2018, to evaluate the economic impact of California's cybersecurity industry so that the state can encourage and promote the its growth.

AB 405 (Irwin), pending in this committee, authorizes the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to authorize the establishment of cybersecurity baccalaureate degree programs at up to 10 community college districts.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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