

Date of Hearing: April 22, 2014

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Das Williams, Chair
AB 2557 (Williams) – As Introduced: February 21, 2014

SUBJECT: Community colleges: intersession extension programs.

SUMMARY: Removes Pasadena City College from the list of eligible community college campuses that may participate in the California Community Colleges (CCC) summer and winter intersessions pilot program; and, makes technical and clarifying changes to existing law.

EXISTING LAW requires the CCC Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) to establish a voluntary pilot program that authorizes a community college district (CCD) to establish and maintain an extension program meeting specified characteristics during summer and winter intersessions. Current law also requires the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), by January 1, 2017, to submit a report on the pilot program to the Legislature, as specified. Additionally, current law states that it is the intent of the Legislature that at least one campus begin implementation of the pilot program by January 2014 and that an additional five campuses should implement the pilot program by July 1, 2014. Current law defines eligible community college campus for purposes of participating in the pilot to be all of the following campuses: 1) College of the Canyons; 2) Crafton Hills College; 3) Long Beach City College; 4) Oxnard College; 5) Pasadena City College; and, 6) Solano Community College. Lastly, current law sunsets and repeals this pilot program on January 1, 2018, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date (Education Code § 78230 and § 78231).

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

COMMENTS: Background. According to a March 2013 report by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), community college course offerings have declined from 420,000 to 334,000 since 2008—86,000 or 21% of course offerings—and most were credit courses necessary to transfer or obtain a degree or certificate. PPIC estimates that since 2008, 600,000 students have not been able to enroll in classes, and another 500,000 students were on waiting lists for fall 2012 courses.

Assembly Bill 955 (Williams, Chapter 710, Statutes of 2013), responded to the PPIC report authorizing the CCCCCO to establish a voluntary pilot program for six specific CCDs.

Six CCDs. Although participation is voluntary for the six eligible campuses (1) College of the Canyons; 2) Crafton Hills College; 3) Long Beach City College; 4) Oxnard College; 5) Pasadena City College; and, 6) Solano Community College), Pasadena City College (PCC) has gone on the record of stating they will not be participating in the pilot, and they wish to be removed from the statute altogether.

According to the author, this measure honors PCC's request to be removed from the Community College Intersession Extension Pilot Program created by AB 955.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file.

Opposition

None on file.

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