

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

March 19, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental
Relations Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller *Gerry F. Miller*
Chief Legislative Analyst

Assignment No. 14-01-0058
Council File No. 14-0002-S11

SUBJECT: SB 173 (Liu) Adult Education

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution to include in the City's 2013-2014 State Legislative Program **OPPOSITION** to SB 173 (Liu) which proposes to cut all funding for older adult education in public schools and community colleges throughout the State of California.

SUMMARY

On January 28, 2014, the Resolution (Koretz-O'Farrell-Cedillo) was introduced stating the following:

- SB 173 (Liu) proposes to cut all funding for older adult education in public schools and community colleges throughout the State of California;
- The Community College League of California states that SB 173 would decrease access for adult learners in California by reducing the number of courses that receive State funding, which would result in essential courses becoming inaccessible to the community;
- Adult education programs offer adults a second chance, and many recent immigrants a first chance to a quality education;
- This is a betrayal of senior citizens who fought to save adult education in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and worked to pass AB 189 which expanded funding to education;
- Adult education courses in low-income areas help adults learn critical life skills; and,
- SB 173 provides that adult classes could be paid by student fees (requiring senior citizens to pay \$500.00 to \$600.00 per class) with uncertain alternative funding sources.

BACKGROUND

Existing law establishes the California Department of Education (CDE), under the administration of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to execute numerous statutes and policies relating to funding and governance of public elementary and secondary schools throughout the state. Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district maintaining secondary schools to establish and maintain classes for adults.

SB 173 reduces the categories of adult education for which state funding may be claimed. This legislation was last amended August 8, 2013.



Specifically, the bill provides for the following:

- Requires the CDE and the Community College Chancellor's Office to: 1) coordinate and issue assessment policy guidelines for purposes of placement, and 2) jointly establish and implement a performance accountability system;
- Eliminates as of July 2015, the authorization to use adult education apportionment to offer the following courses and classes:
 - 1) Parenting programs: According to CDE, these are classes that promote the healthy development of children, high-quality family relationships, and children's success in school. Classes in this program help individuals and families meet the challenges of daily living through health and financial literacy to improve the quality of home and family life. Examples of classes offered include "Parenting the newborn-14 month old," and "Parenting an elementary school age child."
 - 2) Older adult programs: According to CDE, these are classes designed to specially deal with issues related to aging. These classes provide intellectual, physical, financial, and social stimulation and resources addressing the demands of a growing and active older population. Classes offered include "Exercise and fitness", "Ceramics", and "Understanding and using computers."
 - 3) Home economics programs: These classes include "cooking", "knitting", and "wood working".
 - 4) Health and safety education. These classes include "basic CPR and first aid", "aerobics", and "weight management".
- Authorizes the governing board of a community college district to charge a fee (requiring senior citizens to pay \$500.00 to \$600.00 per class) for adult education courses, pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board of Governors, until July 1, 2015;
- Requires the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) to provide a summary analysis on the implementation of this fee authority by January 1, 2016;
- Requires the Commission of Teacher Credentialing and the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges to meet, develop, and recommend reciprocity standards for adult education instruction by July 1, 2015; and
- Declares the Legislature's intent to consider the allocation of base adult education funds and noncredit adult education funds to providers on the basis of a combination of enrollment and performance.

Several educational associations, community colleges, teacher associations and non-profit groups oppose SB 173 because it eliminates adult education courses.

BILL STATUS

8/14/13 Heard for testimony only.

8/08/13 From Committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended.

Re-referred to Committee on Higher Education.

8/05/13 Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Higher Education.

7/03/13 Amended and re-referred to Committee on Higher Education.

6/17/13 Referred to Committees on Education and Higher Education.

5/30/13 In Assembly. Read first time.

5/28/13 Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

5/13/13 Placed on Appropriations Committee suspense file.

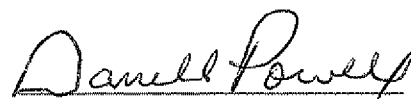
4/24/13 Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Appropriations.

4/08/13 Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Committee on Education.

3/15/13 Set for hearing April 10.

2/14/13 Referred to Committee on Education.

2/05/13 Introduced. Read first time.



Darrell Powell

Analyst

GFM:MF:PS

Attachment: Resolution.

14-0002-511

JAN 28 2014

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district maintaining secondary schools to establish and maintain classes for adults; and

WHEREAS, SB 173 (Liu) proposes to cut all funding for older adult education in public schools and community colleges throughout the state of California; and

WHEREAS, the Community College League of California states that SB 173 would decrease access for adult learners in California by reducing the number of courses that receive state funding, which would result in essential courses becoming inaccessible to the community; and

WHEREAS, adult education programs offer adults a second chance, and many recent immigrants a first chance to a quality education; and

WHEREAS, adult education courses in low-income areas help adults learn critical life skills.

WHEREAS, this is a betrayal to the senior citizens who fought to save adult education in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and to pass AB 189 which expanded funding to education; and

WHEREAS, SB 173 provides that adult classes could be paid by student fees (requiring senior citizens to pay \$500.00 to \$600.00 per class) and/or with uncertain alternative funding sources; and

WHEREAS, SB 173 is opposed by a statewide coalition of teachers, parents, students and organizations, including: AARP, Congress of California Seniors, Partners In Care Foundation, Lucille Beserra and Edward R. Roybal Foundation, California Teachers Association (CTA), California Federation of Teachers (CFT), and United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State Legislative Program OPPOSITION of SB 173 (Liu), which proposes to cut all funding for older education in public schools and community colleges throughout the state of California.

PRESENTED BY:

Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ

Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:

Mitch O'Connell

Guadalupe

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ORIGINAL