

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: March 16, 2016

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

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *Sharon M. Tso* Council File No.: 15-0002-S138
Chief Legislative Analyst Assignment No.: 16-03-0202

SUBJECT: Resolution (Ryu – Wesson) to SUPPORT AB 2663 (Cooper) to Appropriate Funds for the After School Education and Safety Program

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Ryu – Wesson) to include in the City's 2015-16 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 2663 (Cooper) which would appropriate additional funds for the After School Education and Safety Program and require funds to increase as the Consumer Price Index increases.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Ryu – Wesson), introduced on March 2, 2016, states that the After School Education and Safety Program (Program) provides access to safe, enriching after-school programs in the areas of academic assistance, enrichment activities, and recreation activities. Schools participating in the Program have more than 80 percent of their student population eligible for free and reduced price meals. The Program provides funding for over 4,000 elementary and middle schools throughout the State and serves more than 400,000 students daily; of the 400,000 participants, 110,000 are in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The Resolution notes that various studies have reported increased student learning outcomes as a result of participation in the Program.

The Resolution states that insufficient funding levels have hindered the ability of the Program to attract and retain quality staff which has resulted in reduced staffing hours, reduced professional development, the abandonment of specialized instruction, and fewer spaces for children in the Program. The Resolution states that the Legislature is currently considering AB 2663 (Cooper) which would appropriate additional funds for the Program and require the State to increase grant amounts annually. According to the Resolution, AB 2663 would keep effective after-school programs accessible and will also increase educational outcomes for students in the LAUSD.

The Resolution requests that the City support AB 2663.

BACKGROUND

In 2002, voters approved Proposition 49 which provides a continuous appropriation of \$550 million annually to provide students in low-income communities across the State access to after-school programs. The implementation of the ballot measure began in 2006 with the After School Education and Safety Program (Program).

The Program provides programming and activities for students in kindergarten through ninth grade and involves the collaboration among several groups, including: parents, youth, representatives from schools, local law enforcement and parks departments. The educational enrichment element is required to offer activities that reinforce and complement the school's

academic program and can include: visual and performing arts, physical activity, health/nutrition promotion, and career awareness. Programs are required to operate a minimum of fifteen hours per week and begin immediately upon conclusion of the regular school day.

A study conducted in 2002 by the University of California, Irvine and the California Department of Education documented the following benefits of the Program: increased reading and math test scores, improved grade point averages, improved school attendance, improved social skills and behavior, reduced disciplinary incidents, more positive attitudes toward school, improved feelings of safety among participating students and parents, and high levels of support for the Program. In addition, the study documented large improvements in achievement among high-risk students, including English-language learners and students in the lowest quartile of standardized test-takers.

The Legislature is currently considering AB 2663 (Cooper) which would appropriate additional funds for the operation of the Program. Under AB 2663, an additional \$73.26 million would be appropriated to the Program beginning in Fiscal Year 2016-17. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2017-18 this amount would be adjusted based on the California Consumer Price Index, provided that the adjustment does not result in a reduction. According to the bill's author, the daily rate per participant of \$7.50 has not changed since 2006 despite increases in operating costs and the minimum wage.

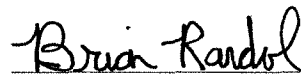
Support for AB 2663 is consistent with existing City programs which provide safe and effective recreational opportunities for youth.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Recreation and Parks
Police Department

BILL STATUS

February 19 Introduced
March 10 Referred to Committee on Education.



Brian Randol
Analyst

Attachment: 1. Resolution
 2. Text of AB 2663

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed 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, in 2002, voters approved Proposition 49 which provides a continuous appropriation of over \$550 million annually to provide students in low-income communities access to safe, enriching after-school programs in the areas of academic assistance, enrichment activities, and recreational activities; the implementation of the ballot measure began in 2006 with the After School Education and Safety Program (Program); and

WHEREAS, on average, schools participating in the Program have more than 80% of their student population eligible for free and reduced price meals; and

WHEREAS, the California Afterschool Advocacy Alliance (CA3) has reported that the Program provides funding for over 4,000 elementary and middle schools throughout the State and serves more than 400,000 students daily; of the 400,000 participants, 110,000 are in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) which includes 25,000 in the LA's BEST After School Enrichment Program, 12,500 in Woodcraft Rangers, 13,182 in After-School All-Stars, and 2,500 in A World Fit for Kids; and

WHEREAS, CA3 also reports that 41 percent of Los Angeles public school students who regularly attend after-school programs scored as proficient or advanced on the English Language portion of the California Standards Test, as compared to 32 percent of non-participants; in addition, students who regularly attend these programs gain up to 115 additional days of learning time, which is critical to closing the academic achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, a study released by the University of California, Irvine determined that low-performing students in the Program were 53 percent less likely to be held back a grade in elementary school than similar non-participants, and that participants also were more likely to move out of the bottom quartile on standardized reading and math tests; and

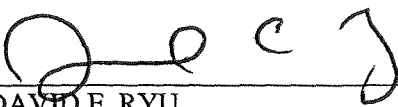
WHEREAS, insufficient funding levels have hindered the ability of the Program to attract and retain quality staff which has resulted in reduced staffing hours, reduced professional development, the abandonment of specialized instruction, and fewer spaces for children in the Program; and


WHEREAS, working parents rely on safe and effective after-school programs to enable them to work additional hours to support their families, while children depend on these programs to obtain valuable skills during a high crime period of the day; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is currently considering AB 2663 (Cooper), which would appropriate additional funds for the Program and would require the State to increase grant amounts annually; and

WHEREAS, AB 2663 would keep effective after-school programs accessible for children and families, and will also increase educational outcomes for students in LAUSD;

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 2015-16 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 2663 (Cooper), which would appropriate additional funds for the After School Education and Safety Program and require funds to increase as the Consumer Price Index increases.

PRESENTED BY: 
 DAVID E. RYU
 Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

MAR 02 2016

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2663

Introduced by Assembly Member Cooper
(Principal coauthors: Senators Hancock and Vidak)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chiu, Daly, and Salas)
(Coauthor: Senator Nguyen)

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 8483.73 to the Education Code, relating to after school programs, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2663, as introduced, Cooper. After school programs: grant amounts.

Existing law, the After School Education and Safety Program Act of 2002, enacted by initiative statute, establishes the After School Education and Safety Program to serve pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 9, inclusive, at participating public elementary, middle, junior high, and charter schools. The existing act provides that each school establishing a program pursuant to the act is eligible to receive a renewable 3-year grant for before or after school programs, as provided, and a grant for operating a program beyond 180 regular schooldays or during summer, weekend, intersession, or vacation periods, as provided, and specifies the maximum grant amount and related amounts for each of these grants. The existing act provides a formula for determining an amount to be continuously appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for purposes of the program and authorizes the Legislature to appropriate additional funds for purposes of the program.

For the 2016–17 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter, this bill would continuously appropriate \$73,260,000 more to the State Department of Education for purposes of the program. The bill would, commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year, require the Department of Finance to annually adjust that amount using a specified calculation, provided that adjustment does not result in a reduction. The bill would, also commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year, require the State Department of Education to annually adjust the maximum grant amounts and those related amounts to reflect the percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index, provided that adjustment does not result in a reduction. The bill also would provide that funds appropriated by the bill would be applied toward the minimum funding requirements for school districts and community college districts imposed by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) The After School Education and Safety Program (ASES)
- 4 serves more than 400,000 low-income pupils in over 4,000
- 5 high-quality elementary and middle school programs statewide.
- 6 (2) After school programs are essential to closing the
- 7 achievement and opportunity gaps for underserved pupils.
- 8 (3) ASES programs receive a daily rate of \$7.50 per pupil for
- 9 three or more hours each day of academic and enrichment activities,
- 10 a rate that experts say is woefully inadequate to run a high-quality
- 11 program.
- 12 (4) The daily rate has not been changed since 2006, despite a
- 13 decade of substantial increases to the costs of operating these
- 14 programs.
- 15 (5) The most significant program cost increases were the two
- 16 statutory minimum wage increases, the first on July 1, 2014, and
- 17 the second on January 1, 2016.
- 18 (6) As costs significantly outpace funding, ASES programs have
- 19 been stretched to the breaking point.
- 20 (7) The ASES daily rate must be increased by fifty cents for
- 21 each one dollar increase to the minimum wage. The minimum

1 wage increase in effect as of January 1, 2016, would translate to
2 an increase in the daily rate from \$7.50 to \$8.50, a 13.33 percent
3 increase.

4 (b) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to augment the
5 ASES budget in an amount sufficient to match the increased costs
6 of the current minimum wage.

7 (c) It is further the intent of the Legislature to ensure the
8 continuation and stability of high-quality ASES programs by
9 adopting a statute that requires the Department of Finance to
10 provide a cost-of-living adjustment to ASES programs in any year
11 in which there is an increase in the consumer price index.

12 SEC. 2. Section 8483.73 is added to the Education Code, to
13 read:

14 8483.73. (a) For the 2016–17 fiscal year, and for each fiscal
15 year thereafter, seventy-three million two hundred sixty thousand
16 dollars (\$73,260,000) is hereby continuously appropriated from
17 the General Fund to the department for purposes of the program
18 established pursuant to this article. Commencing with the 2017–18
19 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of
20 Finance shall adjust this amount by adding the product of six
21 hundred twenty-three million two hundred sixty thousand dollars
22 (\$623,260,000) multiplied by the percentage change in the
23 California Consumer Price Index from the 2016–17 fiscal year,
24 provided that adjustment does not result in a reduction in any fiscal
25 year.

26 (b) Commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year, and each fiscal
27 year thereafter, the department shall annually adjust the dollar
28 amounts specified in Sections 8482.55, 8483.7, 8483.75, and
29 8483.76 by an amount necessary to reflect the percentage change
30 in the California Consumer Price Index from the 2016–17 fiscal
31 year, provided that adjustment does not result in a reduction in any
32 fiscal year.

33 (c) For purposes of making the computations required by Section
34 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, the appropriations
35 made by subdivision (a) shall be deemed to be “General Fund
36 revenues appropriated for school districts,” as defined in
37 subdivision (c) of Section 41202, for the fiscal year in which they
38 were appropriated, and included within the “total allocations to
39 school districts and community college districts from General Fund
40 proceeds of taxes appropriated pursuant to Article XIII B,” as

- 1 defined in subdivision (e) of Section 41202, for the fiscal year in
- 2 which they were appropriated.

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