

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 28, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2302

Introduced by Assembly Member Fong

February 19, 2010

An act to amend Section 66720 of, to add Section 66721.4 to, to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of, to repeal Sections 66740, 66741, and 66742 of, and to amend, repeal, and add Sections 66721.7 and 66739.5 of, the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2302, as amended, Fong. Postsecondary education: student transfer.

(1) Existing law, the Donahoe Higher Education Act, establishes the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in this state. These segments include the California State University, administered by the Trustees of the California State University, the University of California, administered by the Regents of the University of California, and the California Community Colleges, administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. A provision of the act applies to the University of California only to the extent that the regents, by resolution, make that provision applicable.

Existing provisions of the act require the governing bodies of the 3 public postsecondary segments, with appropriate consultation with the academic senates of the respective segments, to develop, maintain, and disseminate a common core curriculum in general education courses

for the purposes of transfer. This provision requires that a person who has successfully completed the transfer core curriculum is to be deemed to have completed all lower division general education requirements for the University of California and the California State University.

This bill would additionally require the governing bodies of those segments to develop, maintain, and disseminate a common core curriculum in major preparation courses. The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges and the Chancellor of the California State University, and would request the President of the University of California, to jointly develop and implement a transfer degree program for purposes of granting transfer degrees to community college students who meet specified general education and major preparation requirements. The bill would require community colleges, commencing with the fall term of the 2012–13 academic year, to grant a transfer degree to a community college student meeting those requirements, and would guarantee upper division status to certain students who are awarded the transfer degree and admitted as transfer students to the University of California or California State University. The bill would require the California State University, and request the University of California, to guarantee admission to a campus of their respective segments to each student who earns a transfer degree, subject to prescribed requirements.

The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges and the Chancellor of the California State University, and would request the President of the University of California, to report to the Legislature on progress toward compliance with the development of the common core curriculum in general education courses and major preparation courses and the transfer degree program by June 30, 2011.

By imposing new requirements on community college districts with respect to granting transfer degrees, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires the governing board of each community college district to direct the appropriate officials at their respective campuses to provide students with a copy of the current transfer core curriculum and to distribute and publish copies of the transfer core curriculum in a specified manner and in specified locations.

This bill would additionally require the governing board of each community college district to ensure that all students desiring to transfer to the California State University or the University of California have appropriate access to a copy of the transfer core curriculum in general

education courses and major preparation courses. By imposing these additional requirements on the governing boards of community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The bill would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to ensure that all California community college students are informed of transfer pathways and transfer degrees.

(3) Existing law requests the University of California, among other things, to address deficiencies in the articulation of major preparation courses between the community colleges and University of California campuses, to identify commonalities and differences in similar majors across University of California campuses, to articulate courses and course sequences at each campus of the California Community Colleges for specified major degree programs for purposes of student transfer, and to conduct a specified review of transcripts of transfer students. Existing law requires the Chancellor of the California State University to establish transfer student admissions requirements to give highest priority to certain transfer students, to specify lower division transfer curriculum for specified major degree programs, and to articulate courses at each campus of the California Community Colleges for specified major degree programs for purposes of student transfer. Existing law requires each campus of the California State University to identify nonelective course requirements beyond systemwide lower division transfer curriculum requirements for each major for purposes of student transfer, in accordance with prescribed requirements.

This bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2013, and would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2014. The bill also would repeal other provisions of existing law requiring the University of California and the California State University to develop discipline-specific articulation agreements and transfer program agreements.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 66720 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 66720. (a) The Board of Governors of the California
4 Community Colleges, the Regents of the University of California,
5 and the Trustees of the California State University, with appropriate
6 consultation with the Academic Senates of the respective segments,
7 shall jointly develop, maintain, and disseminate a common core
8 curriculum in general education courses and a common core
9 curriculum in major preparation courses for the purposes of
10 transfer.

11 (b) The common core curriculum in general education courses
12 developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be the same for all
13 transfer students, regardless of the public four-year institution, or
14 the campus or location of that institution, to which the student
15 transfers. However, the common core curriculum may allow for
16 minor variations for students declaring majors requiring a high
17 number of units, as determined by the public postsecondary
18 education institutions.

19 (c) The common core curriculum in major preparation courses
20 developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be the same for all
21 transfer students in each respective major that has lower division
22 requirements, regardless of the public four-year institution, or the
23 campus or location of that institution, to which the student transfers.

24 (d) (1) A person who has successfully completed the transfer
25 core curriculum in general education courses and major preparation
26 courses shall be deemed to have thereby completed all lower
27 division general education requirements for the University of
28 California and the California State University.

29 (2) Commencing with the fall term of the 2012–13 academic
30 year, a California community college student who has successfully
31 completed the applicable transfer core curriculum in general
32 education courses and major preparation courses shall be eligible
33 for a transfer degree in accordance with Article 3 (commencing
34 with Section 66745).

35 (e) This section does not limit the authority of the University
36 of California and the California State University to impose
37 post-transfer curriculum requirements on transfer students.

1 SEC. 2. Section 66721.4 is added to the Education Code, to
2 read:

3 66721.4. (a) The governing board of each community college
4 district shall ensure that all students desiring to transfer to the
5 California State University or the University of California have
6 appropriate access to a copy of the transfer core curriculum in
7 general education courses and major preparation courses developed
8 pursuant to Section 66720.

9 (b) The Board of Governors of the California Community
10 Colleges shall ensure that all California community college students
11 are informed of the transfer pathways and transfer degrees
12 established by this chapter.

13 SEC. 3. Section 66721.7 of the Education Code is amended to
14 read:

15 66721.7. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that
16 community college students who wish to earn the baccalaureate
17 degree at the University of California (UC) are provided with clear
18 and effective directions that specify curricular paths to this degree.

19 (b) This section shall not be construed to limit in any way the
20 ability of students to gain admission through alternative paths to
21 transfer, such as the Intersegmental General Education Transfer
22 Curriculum (IGETC) or any other means.

23 (c) The University of California is requested to address
24 deficiencies in the articulation of major preparation courses
25 between the California Community Colleges and the various UC
26 campuses to make it easier for prospective transfer students to
27 identify which community college courses meet major preparation
28 requirements across the various campuses of the university.

29 (d) The University of California is requested to identify
30 commonalities and differences in similar majors across all UC
31 campuses in order to accomplish all of the following:

32 (1) To provide students with general descriptions of each major.

33 (2) To identify lower division degree requirements that are
34 common across UC campuses.

35 (3) To identify additional academic requirements at each UC
36 campus.

37 (4) To describe additional criteria that students must achieve to
38 be admitted at the various UC campuses.

39 (e) (1) When four or more UC campuses that award
40 undergraduate degrees have articulated specific courses and course

1 sequences of the California Community Colleges for common
2 requirements in similar majors, the remaining UC campuses that
3 offer undergraduate degrees are requested to also articulate these
4 specific community college courses and course sequences. The
5 Legislature recognizes that UC may adopt provisions allowing
6 individual UC campuses to opt out of this articulation process on
7 a case-by-case basis; however, these provisions should be
8 infrequently used. The Academic Senate of the University of
9 California is requested to notify the California Community Colleges
10 when an articulation request is denied, and to provide information
11 that will enable the California Community Colleges to achieve
12 course comparability with UC.

13 (2) For at least the 20 most high-demand undergraduate majors,
14 and with the ultimate goal of including all majors for which it is
15 feasible, UC is requested to specify lower division transfer paths
16 clearly identifying commonalities, as well as differences, on a
17 comparative basis across UC campuses offering specific major
18 programs. The Academic Senate of the University of California
19 is requested to review the existing differences in lower division
20 major preparation in each major across UC campuses, recognizing
21 that one goal of these requirements should be to achieve similarity
22 to the greatest degree that is academically appropriate.

23 (3) The University of California is requested to include all of
24 the following in the systemwide lower division transfer paths for
25 the high-demand baccalaureate major degree programs:

26 (A) Lower division general education requirements for the
27 university.

28 (B) Lower division major preparation requirements that are
29 common across undergraduate campuses.

30 (C) Additional lower division degree requirements that are
31 unique to an individual campus.

32 (D) Elective units, as appropriate.

33 (E) Additional criteria, such as grade point averages and
34 minimum grades, to ensure that students are competitive in
35 selective majors.

36 (4) The systemwide lower division transfer paths shall be
37 specified in sufficient manner and detail so that existing and future
38 community college lower division courses may be articulated,
39 according to the usual procedures, to the corresponding UC courses
40 or course descriptions.

1 (f) (1) The University of California is requested to, and the
2 Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall, in
3 consultation with the Academic Senate of the California
4 Community Colleges, on or before January 1, 2008, facilitate the
5 articulation of those lower division, baccalaureate-level courses
6 at each campus of the California Community Colleges that meet
7 the lower division transfer path requirements for each major
8 specified by UC in paragraph (1) of subdivision (e).

9 (2) The University of California is requested to annually review,
10 and update as appropriate, the lower division transfer paths and
11 articulation to ensure that they reflect current UC campus degree
12 requirements and community college curricula, and share the
13 results of that review with the Chancellor of the California
14 Community Colleges.

15 (g) As allowed by enrollment demand and available space, UC
16 is requested to develop transfer admission agreement programs
17 for students at each campus of the California Community Colleges
18 who demonstrate the intent to meet the requirements of this section,
19 including the declaration of a major and identification of a choice
20 of a destination campus. The transfer admission agreement shall
21 guarantee admission to the campus and major identified in the
22 agreement and transfer of all units specified in the agreement,
23 subject to the student's successful completion of the requirements
24 of the agreement. It is the intent of the Legislature that the transfer
25 admission agreements entered into under this section be made
26 available to students early in their academic coursework. However,
27 nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude or limit the
28 development or issuance of transfer admission agreements for
29 students at any appropriate time up to the point of application.

30 (h) A path to transfer, as specified in this section, shall be
31 available to any community college student who desires to transfer
32 to UC, and shall not be limited to students who secure a transfer
33 admission agreement as specified in subdivision (g). A student
34 who successfully completes a path to transfer, but who does not
35 secure a transfer admission agreement, shall be guaranteed the
36 transferability and degree applicability for all units that the student
37 has earned pursuant to the path to transfer. However, nothing in
38 this section shall be construed to guarantee admission to UC, or
39 to a specific UC campus, for a student who has not secured a
40 transfer admission agreement.

1 (i) The University of California is requested to, and the
2 California Community Colleges shall, on a three-year periodic
3 cycle, jointly conduct a review of a random representative sample
4 of transcripts of students who have transferred to UC, and of
5 students preparing for transfer, to determine the effectiveness of
6 the transfer preparation pathways referenced in this section.

7 (j) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2013, and,
8 as of January 1, 2014, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
9 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2014, deletes or
10 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

11 SEC. 4. Section 66721.7 is added to the Education Code, to
12 read:

13 66721.7. (a) As allowed by enrollment demand and available
14 space, the University of California is requested to develop transfer
15 admission agreement programs for students at each campus of the
16 California Community Colleges who demonstrate the intent to
17 meet academic requirements for transfer, including declaration of
18 a major and identification of a choice of a destination campus. The
19 transfer admission agreement shall guarantee admission to the
20 campus and major identified in the agreement and transfer of all
21 units specified in the agreement, subject to the student's successful
22 completion of the requirements of the agreement. It is the intent
23 of the Legislature that the transfer admission agreements entered
24 into under this section be made available to students early in their
25 academic coursework. However, this section shall not be construed
26 to preclude or limit the development or issuance of transfer
27 admission agreements for students at any appropriate time up to
28 the point of application.

29 (b) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2013.

30 SEC. 5. Section 66739.5 of the Education Code is amended to
31 read:

32 66739.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
33 following:

34 (1) The California Master Plan and supporting statutes place
35 utmost importance on the effective transfer of community college
36 students to the University of California (UC) and the California
37 State University (CSU) as a means of providing access to the
38 baccalaureate degree.

39 (2) In 2002, CSU enrolled 55,000 transfer students from
40 community colleges.

1 (3) Two out of three students who earn CSU baccalaureate
2 degrees begin in a community college.

3 (4) Effective use of state and student time and resources would
4 be maximized by students accruing fewer unrequired units in
5 earning their degrees.

6 (5) Additional access to community colleges and CSU will be
7 created by higher graduation rates and fewer nonessential units
8 taken.

9 (6) The state budget situation makes it urgent to streamline the
10 path of the transfer student to the baccalaureate degree.

11 (b) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to ensure that
12 community college students who wish to earn the baccalaureate
13 degree at CSU are provided with a clear and effective path to this
14 degree.

15 (c) This section shall not be construed to limit in any way the
16 ability of students to gain admission through alternative paths to
17 transfer, such as the Intersegmental General Education Transfer
18 Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General
19 Education-Breadth Requirements.

20 (d) On or before February 1, 2005, the Chancellor of CSU shall
21 establish transfer student admissions requirements that give highest
22 priority to transfer students who are qualified in accordance with
23 subdivision (f) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (g).

24 (e) (1) CSU campuses admitting students qualified in
25 accordance with subdivision (f) and paragraph (3) of subdivision
26 (g) will make it possible for these students to complete their
27 baccalaureate degree in the minimum number of remaining units
28 required for that degree major.

29 (2) For purposes of this subdivision, the “minimum number of
30 remaining units” is the minimum number of units required for a
31 degree major after subtracting the number of fully
32 degree-transferable units earned at the community college.

33 (f) The Chancellor of CSU, in consultation with the Academic
34 Senate of CSU, shall establish the following components necessary
35 for a clear degree path for transfer students:

36 (1) On or before June 1, 2005, the Chancellor of CSU, in
37 consultation with the Academic Senate of CSU and with the faculty
38 responsible for each high-demand baccalaureate degree major
39 program, shall specify for each high-demand baccalaureate program
40 major a systemwide lower division transfer curriculum composed

1 of at least 45 semester course units, or the quarter-unit equivalent,
2 that will be common across all CSU campuses offering specific
3 major programs.

4 (2) (A) The systemwide lower division transfer curriculum for
5 each high-demand baccalaureate degree major program shall be
6 composed of at least 45 semester units, or the quarter-unit
7 equivalent, and shall include all of the following:

8 (i) General education courses.

9 (ii) Any other lower division courses required for graduation.

10 (iii) Lower division components of the student's declared major.

11 (iv) Elective units, as appropriate.

12 (B) The coursework described in subparagraph (A) shall be
13 designated by the CSU faculty responsible for the student's major
14 degree program.

15 (3) The systemwide lower division transfer curriculum shall be
16 specified in sufficient manner and detail so that existing and future
17 community college lower division courses may be articulated,
18 according to the usual procedures, to the corresponding CSU
19 courses or course descriptions.

20 (g) (1) On or before June 1, 2006, the Chancellor of CSU and
21 the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in
22 consultation with the Academic Senate of the California
23 Community Colleges, shall articulate those lower division,
24 baccalaureate-level courses at each campus of the California
25 Community Colleges that meet for each degree major the
26 systemwide lower division transfer curriculum requirements
27 specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (f).

28 (2) To the extent that the goals of efficiency and urgency are
29 advanced, existing articulation procedures such as the California
30 Articulation Number (CAN) program shall be employed.

31 (3) On or before June 1, 2006, each CSU campus shall have
32 identified any additional specific, nonelective course requirements
33 beyond the systemwide lower division transfer curriculum
34 requirements for each major, up to a maximum of 60 semester
35 units or the quarter-unit equivalent, for the systemwide and
36 campus-specific requirements combined. To the extent these
37 additional course requirements are identified, each CSU campus
38 shall provide that information to all community colleges.

39 (4) The Chancellor of CSU shall amend CSU's transfer
40 admissions procedures to encourage prospective community college

1 transfer students to identify and, to the extent possible, commit to,
2 a specific CSU transfer destination campus before earning more
3 than 45 semester units, or the quarter-unit equivalent, of lower
4 division, baccalaureate-level courses, as described in subdivision
5 (f).

6 (h) As allowed by enrollment demand and available space, each
7 CSU campus shall develop a transfer admission agreement with
8 each student who intends to meet the requirements of this section,
9 including the declaration of a major and identification of a choice
10 of a destination campus, before earning more than 45 systemwide
11 semester units, or the quarter-unit equivalent. The transfer
12 admission agreement shall guarantee admission to the campus and
13 major identified in that agreement and transfer of all 60 semester
14 units, or the quarter-unit equivalent, as creditable to the
15 baccalaureate degree, subject to the student's meeting the following
16 conditions:

17 (1) Completion of the 60 semester units of college-level
18 coursework, or the quarter-unit equivalent, specified for the
19 student's major degree program.

20 (2) Declaration of a major.

21 (3) Satisfactory completion of the systemwide lower division
22 transfer curriculum requirements for the student's declared major.

23 (4) Satisfactory completion of any requirements beyond the
24 systemwide lower division transfer curriculum that are specified
25 by the CSU destination campus.

26 (5) Any impaction criteria for that campus or major.

27 (i) A CSU campus shall guarantee that the transfer students
28 admitted under this section will be able to complete the
29 baccalaureate degree in the minimum number of course units
30 required for that degree.

31 (j) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2013, and,
32 as of January 1, 2014, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
33 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2014, deletes or
34 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

35 SEC. 6. Section 66739.5 is added to the Education Code, to
36 read:

37 66739.5. (a) As allowed by enrollment demand and available
38 space, each campus of the California State University shall develop
39 a transfer admission agreement with each California community
40 college student who demonstrates the intent to meet academic

1 requirements for transfer, including declaration of a major and
 2 identification of a choice of a destination campus, before earning
 3 more than 45 systemwide semester units, or the quarter-unit
 4 equivalent, as creditable to the baccalaureate degree. The transfer
 5 admission agreement shall guarantee admission to the campus and
 6 major identified in the agreement and transfer of all units specified
 7 in the agreement, subject to the student’s successful completion
 8 of the requirements of the agreement.

9 (b) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2013.

10 SEC. 7. Section 66740 of the Education Code is repealed.

11 SEC. 8. Section 66741 of the Education Code is repealed.

12 SEC. 9. Section 66742 of the Education Code is repealed.

13 SEC. 10. Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) is added
 14 to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education
 15 Code, to read:

16
 17 Article 3. Transfer Degree Program
 18

19 66745. (a) Prior to the commencement of the fall term of the
 20 2012–13 academic year, the Board of Governors of the California
 21 Community Colleges, jointly with the California State University
 22 and the University of California, shall develop and implement a
 23 transfer degree program in accordance with this article.

24 (b) (1) The transfer degree shall be granted by each California
 25 community college commencing with the fall term of the 2012–13
 26 academic year.

27 (2) A community college student who commences enrollment
 28 in a California community college prior to the fall term of the
 29 2012–13 academic year may elect to prepare for transfer in
 30 compliance with the transfer degree requirements developed
 31 pursuant to this article, and shall be eligible for a transfer degree
 32 and the rights conferred upon transfer degree holders pursuant to
 33 this article.

34 (c) In developing the transfer degree pursuant to this section,
 35 the Board of Governors shall ensure that the requirements for the
 36 degree provide sufficient unit capacity to allow a student a choice
 37 of electives and allow a student to fulfill local community college
 38 degree requirements.

39 66746. (a) A transfer degree shall constitute a recognized
 40 educational credential awarded by a community college, equivalent

1 to satisfactory completion of the requirements of a postsecondary
2 educational program at the associate degree level.

3 (b) (1) The community college shall grant a transfer degree to
4 a student who completes the common core curriculum in general
5 education courses and major preparation curriculum requirements
6 for his or her major, developed pursuant to Section 66720. The
7 transfer degree shall guarantee a student, if he or she is admitted
8 to a campus of the California State University or the University
9 of California, upper division status upon enrollment in the major
10 for which the student completes the applicable lower division
11 curriculum.

12 (2) If a student completes a transfer degree, but applies for
13 admission to a campus of the California State University or the
14 University of California without declaring a major, or applies for
15 admission to a major program in a major other than the major for
16 which the student completed the lower division major preparation
17 curriculum, the institution may admit the student at the upper
18 division level, and may require the student to complete lower
19 division major preparation requirements specified by the institution.

20 (c) Subject to a competitive application process, the California
21 State University shall, and the University of California is requested
22 to, guarantee admission to a campus of their respective segments
23 to each student who earns a transfer degree pursuant to this article
24 and completes the applicable lower division major preparation
25 curriculum, if the student meets academic standards developed
26 and published by the respective institution.

27 (d) This section does not limit the authority of the University
28 of California and the California State University to impose
29 posttransfer academic requirements on transfer students.

30 66747. The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges
31 and the Chancellor of the California State University shall, and
32 the President of the University of California is requested to, in
33 consultation with the Academic Senate of each respective segment,
34 jointly develop and implement academic requirements for purposes
35 of this article.

36 SEC. 11. (a) On or before June 30, 2011, the Chancellor of
37 the California Community Colleges, the Chancellor of the
38 California State University, and the President of the University of
39 California shall report to the Legislature on progress toward
40 compliance with Sections 1 and 11 to 10, inclusive, of this act.

1 (b) (1) A report to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)
2 shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the
3 Government Code.

4 (2) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this
5 section is repealed on June 30, 2015.

6 SEC. 12. If the Commission on State Mandates determines
7 that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement
8 to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
9 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
10 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.