SB 1456 (Lowenthal)
Principal Co-author: Assembly members Block and Portantino
Co-authors: Senator Liu and Assembly member Olsen

California Community Colleges:
Student Success Act of 2012

FACT SHEET

PURPOSE
To provide critical support services to students on the front-end of their educational experience to increase student success.

SUMMARY
1. Establishes the Student Success Act of 2012;

2. Requires a college or district receiving matriculation funds to provide student support services including orientation, assessment and placement, counseling and other education planning services, and academic interventions for students to ensure academic success to achieve their educational goals;

3. Requires the college or district to evaluate the effectiveness of the Student Success and Support Program and other programs to facilitate student success, including disaggregated data by ethnicity, age, gender, disability, and socioeconomic status;

4. Requires students to identify an educational goal such as degree, career technical certificates, transfer preparation, or career advancement, and to declare a specific course of study after a specified time period or unit accumulation;

5. Requires students qualifying for a BOG fee waiver to meet academic progress standards;

6. Requires the Board of Governors, in consultation with students, faculty, and other key stakeholders, to develop, adopt, and phase in policies over a reasonable period of time and as resources are available.

7. Requires the LAO to review and report to the Legislature by July 1, 2014.

BACKGROUND
The California Community College system is an accessible and affordable gateway to educational advancement for the 2.6 million students it serves. However, budget reductions over the years have led to many first-time students being turned away, existing students not getting the classes they need, and student support services, such as counseling, assessment, and orientation to be drastically cut. The result has been too many students not getting the guidance and courses they need to reach their goals of a degree, certificate, transfer or career advancement.

Senate Bill 1143 (Liu) of 2010 directed the California Community Colleges to establish a task force and develop a plan to promote and improve student success by the beginning of 2012. The 20-member Student Success Task Force composed of community college CEOs, faculty, students, researchers, staff and external stakeholders, spent a full year researching, studying and debating the best methods to improve student outcomes. Their plan resulted in 22 specific recommendations which identify key strategies to invest in student success and enable students to reach
their goals. These recommendations will be implemented through Title 5 regulations, system-wide administrative policies, local best practices, and legislation.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES


“Divided We Fail: Improving Completion and Closing Racial Gaps in California’s Community Colleges,” available at http://www.csus.edu/ihelp/PDFs/R_Div_WeFail_1010.pdf

SUPPORT

California Community Colleges, Chancellor’s Office (Sponsor) Contacts:
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Academic Senate for California Community Colleges
Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
Advancement Project
Alliance for a Better Community
Association of California Community College Administrators
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU)

AVID
Barrio Logan College Institute
Bay Area Council
Beverly Hills Picture Framing
Board of Governors, California Community Colleges
CA Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability
CA Association of Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors’ National Association
CA Catholic Conference, Inc.
CA Manufacturers and Technology Association
California Business Education Association
California Chamber of Commerce
California Communities United Institute
California Community College Association for Occupational Education (CCCAOE)
California Competes
California Hospital Association
California State Student Association
California State University
Californians for Justice
Campaign for College Opportunity
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
Central Valley Higher Education Consortium
Centro CHA, Inc.
Chaffey College
Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles
Coast Community College District
College of the Canyons
College of the Desert
College OPTIONS
Community College League of California
Congregations Building Community
Cosumnes River College
EARN
Families in Schools
Fresno State Associated Students Inc.
Girls, Inc. of Orange County
Greater Long Beach Interfaith Community Organization (ICO)
Greater Sacramento Urban League
Green Dot Public Schools
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE)
Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley
Hispanic Scholarship Fund
Huckleberry Youth Programs
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
InnerCity Struggle
Irvine Valley College
Kern Community College District
Little Hoover Commission
Long Beach Community College District
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Community College District
Los Rios Community College District
MALDEF
Maximizing Access to Advance our Communities
National Council of La Raza
North Bay Leadership Council
One Voice
Orange County Business Council
Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)
PIQE Los Angeles
Parent Revolution
Progressive Christians Uniting
Project Grad, Los Angeles
Public Advocates
Regional Economic Association Leaders Coalition
San Bernardino Community College District
San Diego Community College District
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Joaquin Community College District
San Joaquin Delta College
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Several individuals
Sharp HealthCare
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Southern California College Access Network
Southwestern College
Stanislaus County Office of Education
State Building and Construction Trades Council
State Center Community College District
Student Senate for California Community Colleges
The Arc of California
The Education Trust-West
The Greenlining Institute
The Women’s Foundation of California
Valley Industry and Commerce Association
Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles
Youth Policy Institute

Oppose Unless Amended
California Community College Independents (CCCI)
Faculty Association of the California Community Colleges (FACCC)

Neutral
California Federation of Teachers

Status
Senate Education Committee passed 9-0.
Senate Appropriations Committee passed 7-0.
Senate Floor passed 34-1.
Assembly Higher Education passed 7-1.

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