

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2544

Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin

February 22, 2008

An act to add Article 3.7 (commencing with Section 44495) to Chapter 3 of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2544, as introduced, Mullin. Model civic education staff development program.

Existing law includes in the adopted course of study for grades 1 to 6, inclusive, and in the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, instruction in social sciences. Existing law requires a pupil to complete, while enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, a one-semester course in American government and civics in order to receive a diploma of graduation from high school.

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a plan and make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on the development of a model civic education staff development program.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Article 3.7 (commencing with Section 44495) is
- 2 added to Chapter 3 of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the
- 3 Education Code, to read:

1 Article 3.7. Model Civic Education Staff Development Program

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3 44495. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall develop
4 a plan and make recommendations to the Legislature and the
5 Governor on the development of a model civic education staff
6 development program that includes, but is not limited to, the
7 following approaches to civic education:

8 (a) Providing formal instruction in government, history, law,
9 and democracy for the purpose of increasing civic knowledge.

10 (b) Incorporating and discussing current local, national, and
11 international issues and events into the classroom.

12 (c) Designing and implementing programs that provide pupils
13 with the opportunity to apply what they learn through performing
14 community service that is linked to the formal curriculum and
15 classroom instruction.

16 (d) Offering extracurricular activities that provide opportunities
17 for pupils to get involved in their schools or communities.

18 (e) Encouraging pupil participation in school governance.

19 (f) Encouraging pupil participation in simulations of democratic
20 processes and procedures, including voting, mock trials, legislative
21 deliberation, and diplomacy.