

64939

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 520

Amendment 1

In the title, in line 1, after "of" insert:

, and to add Section 66409.3 to,

Amendment 2

On page 2, before line 1, insert:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) In recent years, California's public higher education institutions have faced skyrocketing demand for enrollment at a time when they lack capacity to provide students with access to courses necessary for program completion and success.

(b) In the 2012–13 academic year, 85 percent of California Community Colleges (CCC) reported having waiting lists for their fall 2012 course sections, with a statewide average of more than 7,000 students on waiting lists per college.

(c) Similarly, impacted courses have contributed significantly to difficulties within the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems, with figures indicating that only 60 percent and 16 percent of students, respectively, are able to earn a degree within four years, with lack of access to key courses a factor in increased time-to-degree.

(d) With rapidly developing innovation in online course delivery models, California's public institutions of higher education have a unique opportunity to meet critical demands for enrollment and reduce time-to-degree by providing students with access to high-quality, alternative, online pathways to successfully complete and obtain credit for the most impacted lower division courses.

(e) California could significantly benefit from a statutorily enacted, quality-first, faculty-led framework allowing students in online courses in strategically selected lower division majors and general education fields to be awarded credit at the UC, CSU, and CCC systems. While providing easy access to these courses, these systems could also continually assess the value of the courses and the rates of student success in utilizing these alternative online pathways.

SEC. 2. Section 66409.3 is added to the Education Code, to read:

66409.3. (a) The California Online Student Access Platform is hereby established. The platform shall be administered by the California Open Education Resources Council established pursuant to Section 66409. As used in this section, "platform" means the California Online Student Access Platform established by this section.

(b) The platform shall accomplish all of the following objectives:

(1) Provide an efficient statewide mechanism for online course providers to offer transferable courses for credit.

(2) Create a pool of approved and transferable online courses for credit through which students seeking to enroll may easily access those courses and related content.



(3) Provide a faculty-led process that places the highest priority on educational quality through which online courses can be subjected to high-quality standards and review.

(4) Allow the state, the public, students, faculty, and other stakeholders to examine student success rates within the platform.

(c) For purposes of accomplishing all of the objectives of the platform as specified in subdivision (b), the California Open Education Resources Council shall do all of the following:

(1) (A) Develop a list of the 50 most impacted lower division courses at the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges that are deemed necessary for program completion or fulfilling transfer requirements, or deemed satisfactory for meeting general education requirements.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "impacted lower division course" means a course in which, during most academic terms, the number of students seeking to enroll in the course exceeds the number spaces available in the course.

(2) Create and administer a standardized review and approval process for online courses in which most or all course instruction is delivered online and is open to any interested person. When reviewing online courses for purposes of this section, the council shall, at minimum, consider the extent to which each course does any of the following:

(A) Provides students with instructional support and related services to promote retention and success.

(B) Provides students with interaction with instructors and other students.

(C) Contains a proctored student assessment and examination process that ensures academic integrity and satisfactorily measures student learning.

(D) Provides a student with an opportunity to assess the extent to which he or she is suited for online learning prior to enrolling.

(E) Utilizes, as the primary course text or as a wholly acceptable alternative, content, where it exists, from the California Digital Open Source Library established pursuant to Section 66408.

(F) Includes adaptive learning technology systems or comparable technologies that can provide significant improvement in the learning of students.

(G) Includes content that has been reviewed and recommended by the American Council on Education.

(3) Regularly solicit and consider from each of the respective statewide student associations of the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, advice and guidance on implementation of the platform.

(4) Collect, review, and make public data and other information related to student success within the platform by gathering and reporting data on accepted student success metrics, including, but not necessarily limited to, student enrollment in approved online courses through the platform, and student retention and completion rates.

(5) Utilize the state's current common course numbering system for approved courses so as to simplify the identification and articulation of comparable courses.

(d) Online courses approved by the California Open Education Resources Council pursuant to this section shall be placed in the California Student Access Course Pool, which is hereby created, through which students may access the courses. Students

taking an online course available in the California Student Access Course Pool and achieving a passing score on the course examination shall be awarded full academic credit for the comparable course at the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges.

Amendment 3

On page 2, in line 1, strike out "SECTION 1." and insert:

SEC. 3.

Amendment 4

On page 7, in line 15, strike out "SEC. 2." and insert:

SEC. 4.

Amendment 5

On page 7, in line 21, strike out "SEC. 3." and insert:

SEC. 5.