

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: Original
POSITION: Oppose
SPONSOR: Planned Parenthood and American Civil Liberties Union

BILL NUMBER: SB 1600
AUTHOR: S. Kuehl

BILL SUMMARY: School Curriculum: Sexual Health Education

By including charter schools in the definition of a "school district" for the California Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act, this bill would require that grade 7 and 12 charter school pupils receive HIV/AIDS prevention education.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would create cost pressures of approximately \$190,000 for charter schools to perform the required activities. This cost estimate is based on the annual cost estimate of similar state-mandated activities for school districts (\$3.8 million) divided by 20 (one in 20 California schools is a charter school).

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is opposed to this bill because by requiring charter schools that provide sexual health education to meet the same standards that all other public schools currently must meet, the bill would decrease the autonomy given to charter schools by current law, which could stifle their ability to offer innovative educational programs, provide new options to families, and promote healthy competition for traditional public schools.

A charter school is a public school, and it may provide instruction in any of grades K-12. A charter school is usually created or organized by a group of teachers, parents, community leaders, or a community-based organization, and it is usually sponsored by an existing local public school board or county board of education. Specific goals and operating procedures for the charter school are detailed in an agreement (or "charter") between the sponsoring board and charter organizers. One in 20 schools in California is a charter school, and one in 50 students in California attends a charter school.

Chapter 650, Statutes of 2003 (SB 71), established the California Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act, which requires that sexual health education taught in public schools be comprehensive, medically-accurate, bias-free, and age-appropriate. Chapter 602, Statutes of 2007 (AB 629), placed similar requirements on community-based sexual health education programs funded by the state. Charter schools that choose to include sexual health education in their curriculum are currently exempted from these requirements.

Analyst/Principal (0362) R. Storm Date Program Budget Manager Jeannie Oropeza Date

Department Deputy Director Date

Governor's Office: By: Date: Position Approved Position Disapproved

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

BILL ANALYSIS/ENROLLED BILL REPORT--(CONTINUED)

AUTHOR

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Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							Fund
	RV	98	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009	FC	2009-2010	Code
6110/Dept of Educ	LA	Yes		--	S	\$190	S	\$190	0001