

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: 05/25/2012
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 1121
AUTHOR: Hancock, Loni

BILL SUMMARY: Inmates: assessments.

This bill would require a credentialed teacher, vice principal, or principal to provide input relating to the academic or vocational education program placement of an inmate, including, but not limited to, interviewing the inmate, verifying the inmate's education records and test scores, or being present at meetings relating to academic or vocational education program placement.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) indicates this bill would have no fiscal impact on their operations, as this measure only codifies existing practice.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is neutral on this bill because it could it enable more effective rehabilitation of inmates by requiring education representatives to participate in the academic and vocational program placement of inmates.

This bill is intended to address shortfalls in CDCR's inmate assignment process regarding educational programming. Both the Bureau of State Audits and the Legislative Analyst's Office have reported that CDCR does not always use needs assessments to determine which programs inmates are assigned to, despite the adoption of the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) assessment tool. The author states that allowing educators to participate in the assignment process would rectify problems with the assignment of inmates based on risk and need.

Table with fiscal impact data for Code/Department 5225/Corr & Rehab, showing fiscal impact by year (2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014) and fund code 0001.

Analyst/Principal (0233) J.Howard Date Program Budget Manager Lisa Ann Mangat Date

Department Deputy Director Date

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