

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2504 (Bauer-Kahan) – As Amended April 16, 2026

Policy Committee:	Higher Education	Vote:	9 - 0
	Privacy and Consumer Protection		15 - 0

Urgency: No            State Mandated Local Program: No            Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) to establish the Future of Creative Industries Pilot Program, including up to 10 community college districts (CCDs) statewide, subject to an appropriation.

The bill requires the CCCCCO, by January 1, 2032, to submit a report to the Legislature evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot, listing certificates or degrees awarded to participants, and detailing outcomes and job placement rates of participants.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

One-time General Fund cost pressures of an unknown but likely significant amount, possibly in the hundreds of thousands to low millions of dollars, for the Legislature to appropriate funding to support the CCCCCO’s establishment of the pilot and submittal of the required report by January 1, 2032.

**COMMENTS:**

The increasing capability of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) and its proliferation into the workforce has led to concerns of reduced employability for individuals of all professions, but particular those in the entertainment industry. A 2024 CVL Economic study projected an estimated 62,000 jobs could be disrupted by GenAI by 2026. According to the William Morris Endeavor, a talent agency:

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the U.S. economy at a pace faster than previous technological transitions and, while AI promises productivity, growth, and global competitiveness, it also presents serious workforce disruption risks across all sectors, including the creative arts.

The bill tasks the pilot established by the CCCCCO with the selection of up to 10 CCDs to support workers in California’s creative and entertainment industries, build meaningful partnerships with the relevant labor unions representing creative workers, and establish a coordinated, outcomes-driven model that could be scaled up across workforce sectors experiencing GenAI-related disruption.

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