

Date of Hearing: January 22, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 296 (Davies) – As Amended January 5, 2026

Policy Committee:	Labor and Employment	Vote:	5 - 2
	Education		8 - 0

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

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop and maintain, until January 1, 2032, a registry of career technical education (CTE) equipment listed for sale accessible to local educational agencies (LEAs) via an internet website and authorizes an LEA to list CTE equipment for sale on the registry.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Ongoing General Fund costs to the CDE of approximately \$307,000 for two additional staff and approximately one-time General Fund costs of \$500,000 in additional information technology costs to develop and maintain the registry.

COMMENTS:

According to the author's office, the bill provides an opportunity for an LEA to procure CTE equipment at a potentially cheaper price than what is otherwise available on the general market, allowing the LEA to make the most of limited resources and still offer high quality CTE programs to students with the appropriate tools and equipment.

CTE programs provide students with hands-on learning opportunities to acquire workplace competencies and real-world skills immediately applicable as members of the workforce. Such programs typically educate students either through a very technically specific industry-oriented approach, or a mix of academic and technical learning approaches, with either approach often requiring industry-specific tools or equipment.

Aside from general requirements regarding sale of surplus property, such as proper documentation and selling equipment at market value, current law allows LEAs to sell surplus property to a wide range of entities, including state or federal government agencies, any county, city and county, city or special district, or any other school district. Therefore, while current law allows an LEA to sell equipment to other governmental agencies, including other LEAs, this bill may reduce the ability for LEAs to dispose of equipment by limiting the registry to only other LEAs.

Analysis Prepared by: Aaron Heredia / APPR. / (916) 319-2081