

## CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 378 (Valencia)

As Amended September 9, 2025

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Makes changes to the existing Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program (CSESAP) by adding a joint powers authority (JPA) to the definition of "local education agency" for purposes of CSESAP participation

**Senate Amendments**

- 1) Incorporate Section 41023 (a) of the Education Code by reference to clarify the definition of "local educational agency" such that an education JPA is one that consists solely of school districts and county offices of education (COE).
- 2) Incorporate specific changes to the Education Code proposed by Assembly Bill 147 (Gabriel) and Senate Bill 147 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) to resolve a chaptering conflict.

**COMMENTS***The Classified School Employees Summer Assistance Program*

The CSESAP allows a classified employee working for a TK-12 school district or COE to set aside a portion of their monthly paycheck (up to 10%) during the school year to receive up to a dollar-for-dollar match from the State during the summer when work is not available. The classified employee must be making less than \$62,400 annually at the time of enrollment.

Classified employees often work about nine or 10 months per year due to the length of a typical school year; often have difficulty finding short-term employment during the summer months; and, are not eligible for unemployment benefits during the summer, unless they are laid off.

Established in 2019, the CSESAP and the State has appropriated more than \$350 million to the program through the 2025-26 school year. These funds are allocated to local education agencies (LEAs) by the California Department of Education during the summer of the subsequent fiscal year during which withholdings were made.

*JPA's*

Existing law provides the ability for two or more public agencies to join together, under a joint powers authority (JPA), to enter into an agreement to jointly exercise common power to provide services. School districts and COEs may form JPAs for various purposes to serve the needs of their communities and share resources across LEAs. However, existing law does not include employees of JPAs to be eligible for the CSESAP.

*This Bill*

This bill proposes to include JPAs in the definition of "local education agency" for purposes of the CSESAP, therefore, authorizing JPA classified employees to participate in the program.

Please see the various policy committee analyses for a full discussion of this bill.

### **According to the Author**

"[JPAs] are not part of the LEA definition, which prohibits their participation in the CSESAP, leaving many low-wage classified school employees without a source of income when the school year has ended. This bill proposes to expand the definition of LEA to include JPAs in the eligibility requirements for the CSESAP."

### **Arguments in Support**

In part, the California School Employees Association, AFL-CIO, states, "[the CSESAP] is especially important because classified school employees are ineligible to receive unemployment insurance during the summer and finding short-term work is very difficult. [Current law] allows employees of school districts or COEs to participate in [the] CSESAP, but it does not allow employees of JPAs to participate in the program. Like their counterparts at school districts and COEs, classified employees at JPAs often work less than 12 months and provide critical services to students, including school transportation and school meals.

"[This bill] will ensure that all classified school employees can benefit from [the] CSESAP and the financial stability it offers during the summer months."

### **Arguments in Opposition**

None.

## **FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this bill would result in unknown future cost pressures, likely in the millions of dollars annually, to provide additional funding to the CSESAP to accommodate the demand from the increased number of eligible classified school employees. To the extent that additional funds are not appropriated for the CSESAP and participation increases, the State would not be able to provide the dollar-for-dollar match allocations to LEAs, and likely would instead provide a reduced match amount.

## **VOTES:**

### **ASM PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND RETIREMENT: 6-0-1**

**YES:** McKinnor, Alanis, Boerner, Elhawary, Garcia, Nguyen

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Lackey

### **ASM EDUCATION: 7-2-0**

**YES:** Muratsuchi, Addis, Alvarez, Bonta, Garcia, Lowenthal, Patel

**NO:** Hoover, Castillo

### **ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 12-2-1**

**YES:** Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta

**NO:** Dixon, Tangipa

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Sanchez

## **ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-11-4**

**YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

**NO:** Castillo, DeMaio, Ellis, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Chen, Dixon, Flora, Lackey

**UPDATED**

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