
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

ACA 7 (Jackson) - Government preferences

Version: June 10, 2026

Urgency:

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 5 - 2, E. & C.A. 4 - 1

Mandate: No

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: ACA 7, if approved by voters, would amend the California Constitution to replace “public education” with “higher education admissions and enrollment” in subdivision (a) Section 31, of Article I, which prohibits discrimination and preferential treatment on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin. The measure requires that it appear on the statewide general election ballot on November 7, 2028.

***** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026

Fiscal Impact:

- This bill could result in additional, unknown Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures for the state or K-12 local educational agencies (LEAs) to enact policies and programs providing preferential treatment on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin. However, these costs are difficult to quantify because the bill does not necessarily require any changes to current policies or programs. The exact costs would depend on any decisions that are made by the state or LEAs with respect to the implementation of policies or programs that consider race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin.
- This measure would result in one-time General Fund costs to the Secretary of State (SOS) in the range of \$738,000 to \$984,000, likely in 2028-29, for printing and mailing costs to place the measure on the ballot in a statewide election. Actual costs may be higher or lower, depending on the length of required elements and the overall size of the ballot.

Author Amendments: Add legislative finding and declarations regarding racial equity gaps, make clarifying changes, and add Assemblymember Gipson as a coauthor.

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