

Senate Bill 78

After School Funding

Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)

SUMMARY

SB 78 would increase funding for California's statewide after school program. Over the last decade, After School Education and Safety (ASES) program has been stretched to its breaking point due to increased operating costs and flat funding rates. Without additional funds, after school programs across California will be forced to reduce their hours, cut educational programs, and even close their doors.

BACKGROUND

Proposition 49, approved by voters in 2002, established the ASES program and provided ongoing funding of \$550 million per year for before and after school programs. Elementary and middle schools are eligible to submit applications for funding through the California Department of Education (CDE). ASES funded after school and summer school programs serve more than 400,000 students daily in over 4,000 elementary and middle schools across the state. These programs provide students with academic and enrichment activities, keep kids safely off the streets, and offer necessary child care for working families.

Research shows that after school programs provide a variety of benefits to students including: improved school attendance, English fluency, academic success, crime prevention, and social-emotional skill development. These programs are cost effective and provide a return of \$2 to \$9 dollars for every \$1 invested.

PROBLEM

Funding for ASES programs has been stagnant for a decade, while minimum wage increases and state mandated paid sick leave have raised operating costs. Meanwhile, the Average Daily Attendance rate for ASES of \$7.50 per child has not been increased since 2006. In order to adjust to these cost pressures, after school programs have reduced their hours and cut academic activities. If funding remains flat, some programs may even be forced to close and turn away as many as 120,000 students.

Despite recent regular increases to statewide education funding, financing after school programs through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is not an adequate solution. Few districts invest LCFF money into the ASES program and, when these funds are utilized, they are usually used for program expansion rather than covering operating costs.

SOLUTION

SB 78 would continuously appropriate an additional \$99,305,000 to the CDE for the purposes of the ASES program. This would bring total annual funding to \$649,305,000. Beginning in the 2018-19 fiscal year, and each fiscal year after that, funding would increase simultaneously with minimum wage increases to ensure that programs stay solvent. Increased funding from SB 78 would allow the programs supported by ASES to continue serving our communities and working families.

STATUS

Introduced – January 11, 2017

SUPPORT

California Afterschool Advocacy Alliance (Sponsor)
A World Fit for Kids!
After-School All-Stars, Los Angeles
arc
Bay Area Community Resources
California Afterschool Network
California Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
California State Alliance of YMCAs
California School-Age Consortium
California Teaching Fellows Foundation
Central Valley Afterschool Foundation
Citizen Schools
EduCare Foundation
Fight Crime Invest in Kids
Inspirement Tribe
LA's Best
Mission: Readiness
The Children's Initiative
THINK Together
Partnership for Children & Youth
Woodcraft Rangers
YMCA of San Francisco

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