



**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
AGENDA REPORT**

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: Ken Stripling

DATE: June 11, 2019

SUBJECT: STATE LEGISLATION: ASSEMBLY BILL 720

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Masis Hagobian

RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council adopt the City Council Legislative Committee recommendation to support Assembly Bill 720 (Muratsuchi) and transmit position statements to Assembly Member Muratsuchi, Santa Clarita’s state legislative delegation, appropriate legislative committees, Governor Newsom, and the League of California Cities.

BACKGROUND

Approximately 30 community college districts, including the Santa Clarita Community College District, offer public safety classes through Instructional Service Agreements (ISA). ISA’s exist between public agencies or private entities and a college to provide specific training and services.

ISA courses, among other things, include basic law enforcement and fire academy curriculum for new recruits to sheriff, police, and fire departments, as well as specialized, ongoing, and enhanced public safety training. The community colleges partner with their local public safety departments to offer this training through ISA’s, which have historically been funded through the community college’s enrollment-based state apportionments. These state revenues are typically shared by the colleges with their partnering agencies in order to help cover all parties’ respective costs related to the training.

As part of the higher education trailer bill to the 2018-19 Budget Act (AB 1809, Chapter 33, Statutes of 2018), the state legislature adopted and began phasing in a new funding formula for ISA’s within community colleges. This new formula applies to all ISA courses, including courses related to public safety. Once this new formula is fully phased-in by 2020, apportionments for ISA courses based on enrollment will be reduced from 100 percent to 60 percent. The remaining 40 percent will be apportioned within ISA’s based on districts serving students of need (20 percent) and for various measures of student success (20 percent), such as attainment of degrees or certificates, transferring to four-year institutions, or obtaining gainful

employment.

The current formula significantly reduces funding towards public safety ISA courses. Generally, students in the public safety ISA courses are already employed by a public safety agency and therefore, are not financially needy. Furthermore, the public safety ISA courses do not lead to degrees or certificates and therefore, cannot be measured as part of student success. As a result, when the new funding formula is fully phased-in, the apportionment revenue generated by the ISA courses will decline by approximately 40 percent.

Based on its current enrollment in ISA courses, College of the Canyons (COC), which supports Assembly Bill 720, indicates that under the current formula, it is projected to incur a \$4 million reduction in apportionment revenue this year from its ISA courses. COC estimates an additional \$600,000 reduction in apportionment next year, when the formula is fully phased-in.

Assembly Bill 720 proposes that, commencing in 2019-20, the funding formula for courses offered pursuant to an ISA between a community college and a public safety agency be based on a general apportionment rate per full-time-equivalent student for enrollment in those courses, as was the formula prior to the adoption of the 2018-19 Budget Act.

Assembly Bill 720 was introduced on February 19, 2019, and unanimously passed the Assembly (77-0-3) on May 22, 2019. The bill is pending consideration in the Senate Committee on Education. No hearing in the Senate Committee on Education has been scheduled at the time of the writing of this report.

The City Council Legislative Committee met on May 30, 2019, and recommends that the City Council adopt a “support” position on Assembly Bill 720.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

1. Adopt a “neutral” position on Assembly Bill 720
2. Adopt an “oppose” position on Assembly Bill 720
3. Take no action on Assembly Bill 720
4. Refer Assembly Bill 720 back to the Legislative Committee
5. Other action, as determined by the City Council

FISCAL IMPACT

The resources required to implement the recommended action are contained within the City of Santa Clarita's adopted Fiscal Year 2018-19 budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Assembly Bill 720 - Bill Text