



## **Assemblywoman Burke's Committee Assignments**

### **Accountability and Administrative Review**

Primary jurisdictions are identifying savings and efficiencies in the management of state government, reviewing and studying the implementation, operation, and effectiveness of state programs and agencies.

### **Health**

Primary jurisdictions are health care, health insurance, Medi-Cal and other public health care programs, mental health licensing of health and health-related professionals, and long-term health care facilities.

### **Housing and Community Development**

Primary jurisdictions are building standards, common interest developments, eminent domain, farm worker housing, homeless programs, housing discrimination, housing finance (including redevelopment), housing, natural disaster assistance and preparedness, land use planning, mobile homes/manufactured housing, redevelopment: housing, and rent control.

### **Rules**

Primary jurisdictions are proposed amendments to the rules, and other matters relating to the business of the Legislature.

### **Utilities and Commerce**

Primary jurisdictions are public utilities; the California Public Utilities Commission; the California Energy Commission; the California Independent System Operator; Electricity Oversight Board; energy companies; common carriers; electricity; alternative energy development and conservation; natural gas; wireless, wireline and cable communications; international trade; Women and Minority Business Enterprises; and tourism.

### **Chair, Select Committee on Career Technical Education and Building a 21st Century Workforce**

The select committee will focus on enhancing California's career technical education programs and the essential role that education plays in the future of California's growing economy.

## AB 907 (Burke)

### Career Training: Adult Students

#### SUMMARY

Assembly Bill 907 will establish a process that will allow numerous K-12 county offices of education, adult education programs, and regional occupational centers and programs, which have provided career training to needy students over the age of 18 to reestablish eligibility for their students to receive federal Title IV financial aid.

#### BACKGROUND

Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 provides financial aid for adult learners in post-secondary programs. One application of that financial aid has historically been to support job or career training for needy adults in order to build job skills, update job skills, or re-tool for a career with greater job opportunity.

In California providers of that training have included K-12 entities such as adult education programs, other types of adult schools run by county offices of education, and Regional Occupational Centers and Programs (ROCPs). If these programs went through a process of meeting some federal requirements, including an accreditation process, then they were eligible to provide and administer the Title IV financial aid to their students and their students were eligible to receive that aid in order to offset any cost of the training. Effectively, the financial aid allowed the training to be provided at no cost to the adult student, with no cost to the state, and without any concern over K-12 funding being used to cover services to adults.

Recent revisions to federal regulations governing Title IV financial aid now require that a state agency, that has oversight of those entities providing training, individually authorize each of the providers to offer training programs beyond the secondary level in order to have their adult students become eligible for the financial aid.

In three states across the country (California, Texas and Florida) there was a problem in that a single state agency, providing oversight of K-12 entities that had historically provided career training for needy adults, did not have the statutory authority to individually authorize each of the providers to offer training programs beyond the secondary level.

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) have opined that a single agency, like the California Department of Education (CDE), would have to certify these (K-12) programs as being legally authorized to operate a career training program beyond the secondary level, or else students in those programs could not be eligible for the federal financial aid under Title IV. Loss of that financial aid would mean an end to those training programs.

In their revised regulations, USDOE also requires that a state-level complaint process be available for any federal financial aid recipients; the Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) administered by the CDE currently covers complaints related to adult education programs and regional occupational centers and programs, but does not cover financial aid recipients enrolled in county operated programs.

#### AB 907

AB 907 authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to certify, by name, any county office of education, adult education program or regional occupational center or program that provides a program of training to prepare adult students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation, to be legally authorized to provide an educational program beyond secondary education for the purposes of participating in any student financial assistance program authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (Title IV, HEA program).