An act to amend Section 52301 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 3327, as introduced, Smith. Career technical education: regional occupational centers.

Existing law authorizes the county superintendent of schools of each county, with the consent of the State Board of Education, to establish and maintain a regional occupational center or regional occupational program in the county to provide, among other things, individual counseling and guidance in career technical matters and a curriculum that includes academic and skill instruction in specific occupational fields. Existing law sets forth various provisions relating to the establishment of a regional occupational center or regional occupational program.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to those provisions.


The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 52301 of the Education Code is amended to read:

52301. (a) (1) The county superintendent of schools of each county, with the consent of the state board, may establish and
maintain, or with one or more counties may establish and maintain, a regional occupational center, or regional occupational program, in the county to provide education and training in career technical courses. The governing boards of any school districts maintaining high schools in the county may, with the consent of the state board and of the county superintendent of schools, cooperate in the establishment and maintenance of a regional occupational center or program, except that if a school district also maintains 500 or more schools, its governing board may establish and maintain one or more regional occupational centers or programs without those restrictions. A regional occupational center or program may be established by two or more school districts maintaining high schools through the use of the staff and facilities of a community college or community colleges serving the same geographic area as the school districts maintaining the high schools, with the consent of the state board and the county superintendent of schools.

(2) The establishment and maintenance of a regional occupational center or program, by two or more school districts may be undertaken pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. In a regional occupational center or program, the functions of the county auditor undertaken pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code shall be performed by the county superintendent of schools in a county in which the board of supervisors has transferred educational functions from the county auditor to the county superintendent of schools pursuant to Sections 42649, as added by Chapter 533 of the Statutes of 1977, and 85265.5. If a school district or school districts establish and maintain a regional occupational center or program pursuant to this chapter, the county superintendent of schools may, with the consent of the state board, establish and maintain a separate regional occupational center or centers or program or programs.

(b) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, a single school district located in a class 1 county, as defined in Section 1205, and having an average daily attendance of 50,000 or more, or a single school district located in a class 2 county, as defined in Section 1205, and having an average daily attendance of 100,000
or more, may apply to the state board through the county superintendent of schools for permission to establish a regional occupational center or program. Except as provided in subdivision (c), the state board shall, within 90 days of receipt of an application, prescribe a procedure whereby the school district may establish a regional occupational center or program in accordance with its application and in compliance with the provisions of the State Plan for Career Technical Education. The county superintendent of schools may supervise establishment of the regional occupational center or program.

(c) (1) The state board may disapprove a waiver application submitted by a single school district pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 33050) of Chapter 1 of Part 20 of Division 2 for permission to establish a regional occupational center or program which does not meet the requirements of this section if the state board determines that the establishment of the regional occupational center or program would have an adverse effect upon existing regional occupational centers or programs located in school districts which are contiguous to the applicant school district.

(2) The state board shall establish criteria to measure adverse effect. The criteria shall include, but not be limited to, hardship on (A) school districts operating regional occupational centers or programs which are contiguous to the applicant school district and (B) students pupils of school districts operating regional occupational centers or programs that are contiguous to the applicant school district.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any a regional occupational center or program operated by a single school district under a waiver pursuant to Section 33050 shall be granted permanent status if the single school district has previously been granted two waivers from the state board to operate a single school district regional occupational center or program and the single school district maintains at least three but not more than five comprehensive high schools within the school district. The revenue limit for a regional occupational center or program established under this subdivision shall be the lower of either: (1) the revenue limit under which the regional occupational center or program operates as of January 1, 1985, or (2) the revenue limit of the school district as of January 1, 1985, except that this revenue limit
shall be subject to annual percentage cost-of-living adjustments
provided for regional occupational centers and programs. The
governing board of the school district shall retain authority to
decide whether or not to operate the regional occupational center
or program under this subdivision.