

# LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

California Schools in Focus: Quarterly Newsletter on Legislation Affecting Schools



## **AB-1524 Free Drug Testing Devices for Community College Students** CC

Beginning 1/1/25, community colleges will be required to stock drug testing devices designed to detect the presence of controlled substances in a drink. Such devices may take the form of straws, stickers, or coasters as displayed [here](#). These devices shall be made available to students free of charge and can be located at the campus health center. The bill's author, Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal, passed a similar bill ([AB-1013](#)) during the 2023 legislative session requiring bars to provide drug testing devices free of charge to patrons. AB-1524 seeks to extend the requirement to community colleges in the hopes of preventing instances of drug-facilitated sexual assault. Community colleges will be required to post signage in a conspicuous location indicating the availability of free drug testing devices for students.

## **AB-1913 Mandated Employee Training On Grooming and Abuse Prevention** K-12

Existing law requires school employees to take mandated reporter training annually. This bill will require LEAs to include child abuse prevention instruction in the mandated reporter training course as of July 1, 2025. The intent of the bill is to educate school employees on how to identify signs of grooming and potential abuse before it occurs. The California Department of Education (CDE) and the California Department of Social Services will partner to develop the training material and disseminate to LEAs.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- AB-1524 Free Drug Testing Devices for Community College Students (CC)
- AB-1913 Mandated Employee Training on Grooming and Abuse Prevention (K-12)
- AB-2565 School Facilities: Interior Locks (K-12)
- AB-2534 Certified Employees: Disclosures: Egregious Misconduct (K-12)
- AB-2998 Permit Students to Carry/Administer Their Own Naloxone (K-12)
- AB-1858 Standardizing Armed Assailant Drills (K-12)
- AB-2053 Student Instruction on Abusive Relationships (K-12)
- AB-2377 Student Accommodations for Religious Fasting (K-12)
- AB-2608 Community Colleges - Updates to Sexual Violence Training (CC)
- SB-1318 K-12 Suicide Prevention Policies (K-12)
- AB-1870 Updated DWC-7 Forms and Required Posting (CC) (K-12)
- AB-1239 Workers' Compensation Disability Payments-Direct Deposit (CC) (K-12)
- AB-2337 Workers' Compensation: Electronic Signatures (CC) (K-12)

**AB-2565 School Facilities: Interior Locks** **K-12**

In response to the increase in gun violence in schools, this bill requires all K-12 LEAs to install interior locks on all doors to rooms with occupancy of more than 5 if the LEA undertakes an addition, alteration, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or retrofit of that building.

**AB-2534 Certificated Employees: Disclosures: Egregious Misconduct.** **K-12**

Beginning 1/1/25, any individual applying for a job at LEA shall provide a complete list of every school district/COE/charter or state special school that they have worked for. The LEA shall then contact every employer on the list and ask if the applicant was the subject of “credible complaints of, substantiated investigations into, or discipline for, egregious misconduct required to be reported to the CTC”. Egregious conduct is defined as sex offenses, controlled substance offenses, child abuse, and neglect offenses. Former LEA employers are required to disclose what was reported to the CTC.

**AB-2998 Permit Students to Carry/Administer Their Own Naloxone** **K-12**

While existing law allows school district staff to carry and administer Naloxone in the event of an overdose, this law would allow students 12 years of age and older to carry their own dose of Naloxone or administer it to someone they reasonably believe is suffering from an opioid overdose. The bill also includes some civil liability protections for such activities.

**AB-1858 Standardizing Armed Assailant Drills** **K-12**

In 2021, the CDE conducted a study on active assailant drills and found that the execution of such drills could cause harm to participants. This bill would require the CDE to develop best practices for armed assailant drills and post to its website by June 15, 2025. The intent of the bill is to minimize the harm caused by incorporating best practices such as:

- 1) Include mental health professionals on school safety teams;
- 2) Tailor the drill to the context of the school environment;
- 3) Ensure physical and psychological safety, skills, and knowledge acquisition; and
- 4) Give all participants advance warning and the ability to opt-out.

**AB-2053 Student Instruction on Abusive Relationships** K-12

This bill will require the current sexual health education course provided in grades 7-12 to include information on relationship abuse and intimate partner violence, as well as resources such as the national and local domestic violence hotlines.

**AB-2377 Student Accommodations for Religious Fasting** K-12

Any student in grades 1-12 will be permitted to receive an accommodation in connection with engaging in a physical education course during a period of religious fasting. Accommodations must be submitted to the school principal in writing by the student's parent or guardian. If the student is 18 years of age, they can submit the written request to the principal themselves.

**AB-2608 Community Colleges - Updates to Sexual Violence Training** CC

Community colleges are currently required to provide sexual harassment and sexual violence prevention training during student orientation. Beginning 9/1/26, community colleges will be required to update this training to include how to recognize if someone is at risk for a drug and/or alcohol facilitated sexual assault.

**SB-1318 K-12 Suicide Prevention Policies** K-12

The CDE will be required to develop a policy and training for student suicide that addresses prevention, intervention and postvention. The CDE shall have a completed policy and training program available on before 7/1/26. LEAs for grades K-12 shall have their suicide prevention policy reviewed by either a school mental health professional or a contracted mental health professional.

**AB-1870 Updated DWC-7 Forms and Required Posting** CC K-12

Beginning 1/1/25, all employers will be required to post an updated version of the DWC-7 form in a conspicuous place. The updated form includes information concerning an injured employee's ability to consult a licensed attorney to advise them of their rights under workers' compensation laws. CSRM members participating in the workers' compensation program were provided with the updated form to be posted in breakrooms or other locations where mandatory labor postings are required.

**AB-1239 Workers' Compensation Disability Payments - Direct Deposit** CC K-12

Existing law allows insurers to issue disability payments on a pre-paid debit card as opposed to a paper check. The existing law was scheduled to sunset on 1/1/25. This law extends the authorization through 1/1/27.

**AB-2337 Workers' Compensation: Electronic Signatures** CC K-12

This law will allow all workers' compensation documents that require a signature to be filed with an electronic signature. This will assist adjusters in completing medical releases, claims forms and settlements on claims where obtaining an original ink signature had posed a barrier.



### **CSRM Mission Statement**

Promote student achievement by optimizing the financial and human resources of member districts through high quality risk financing and loss reduction services.



### **A Message from our Claims Services Manager**

This year underscored the tension between ambitious legislative agendas and the realities of limited resources, emphasizing the need for strategic prioritization in addressing the needs of California's diverse student population. Despite these challenges, the legislative session highlighted the state's ongoing commitment to improving educational outcomes while balancing fiscal responsibility in light of the state's budget outlook.

**Sandy Avina, MBA, SIP**  
**CSRM Claims Manager**  
**[SAvina@csjpa.org](mailto:SAvina@csjpa.org)**



**California Schools JPA<sup>SM</sup>**

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

**909.763.4900 | [www.csjpa.org](http://www.csjpa.org)**