California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-002 (REV. 11/2017)

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# **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 8, 2018

**TO:** MEMBERS, State Board of Education

**FROM:** TOM TORLAKSON, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT:** Authorization of the Federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

## Summary of Key Issues

On July 31, 2018, President Trump signed the bipartisan Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act(Perkins V)*.* The Perkins V ushers in a new era of development and implementation of high-quality career and technical education (CTE) programs and courses of study to help our nation’s students prepare for college and career. To see the full content of the Perkins V, please visit the portable document format version at Perkins V (<https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/hr2353/BILLS-115hr2353enr.pdf>).

The Perkins V builds upon the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, and contains new provisions including the following:

* Promoting the better alignment of CTE programs with state, regional, and local economic needs;
* Expanding career exploration and development activities for grades five to eight;
* Expanding the definition of “special populations” to include homeless individuals, foster youth, youth who have aged out of foster care, and students whose parents are active duty military.
* Increasing the amount of funds that can be spent on students in state institutions;
* Increasing the amount of reserve funds states can use to address the needs of rural areas, areas with high numbers/percentages of CTE concentrators, or areas with disparities or gaps in their performance;
* Increasing autonomy and authority for states to set their performance goals.

At this point in time, the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education at the U.S. Department of Education has released no timeline for the implementation or expectations for the administration of the new Perkins V. On August 1, 2018, the California Department of Education (CDE) staff consulted with staff from the law firm of Brustein and Manasevit. The CDE was provided with preliminary guidance on timelines for the transition plan, as well as the new State Plan for CTE. It was recommended the CDE plan to develop the transition plan by May 2019 and the new State Plan by February 2020. Given this potential timeline, it may be appropriate for the State Board of Education to recommend a plan of action similar to the Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan. California *Education Code (EC)* Section12053 states:

(a) The State Board of Education is designated the state board of vocational education, which is the sole state agency responsible for the administration or the supervision of the state vocational education, as required by the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act (P.L. 98-524), the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act Amendments of 1990 (P.L. 101-392; 20 U.S.C Sec. 2301 and following), and any acts amending or succeeding those acts. The State Board of Education is granted all necessary power and authority to carry out those provision of federal law.

(b) In recognition of the need for coordinated delivery of vocational education and training in California, the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall enter into a memorandum of understanding, which shall do all of the following:

(1) Provide for an advisory committee composed of an equal number of members of each board.

(2) Assure shared planning and coordination.

(3) Delegate to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, in keeping with the requirements of federal law, the maximum responsibility in administration, operation, and supervision of policies and procedures related to community college vocational programs provided for in federal law.

(c) In carrying out the provisions of federal law, the State Board of Education, prior to taking final action on any proposed policies, procedures, or allocations of funds, shall consider recommendations, if any, of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and make a record of review and comment on the proposed policies, procedures, or allocations of funds.

The advisory committee referenced in *EC* Section 12053(b)(1) was convened in March 2017 and operates as the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee. More information is available on the CDE California Workforce Pathways web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/gi/workpathjac.asp>. The current composition of this committee is:

**State Board of Education Representatives**

Feliza Ortiz-Licon

Patricia Rucker

Ting Sun, Chair

**Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Board of Governors Representatives**

Jolene Grande

Pamela Haynes, Vice Chair

Valerie Shaw

**Ex-Officio Members**

Gustavo Herrera, Young Invincibles

David Rattray, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Prior to the signing of Perkins V, the Career and College Transition Division staff reached out to other divisions within the CDE, as well as staff at the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, to ensure all stakeholders are part of the core team leading the work of developing a new State Plan.

## Attachment(s)

None