

**SB 429 (DeSaulnier)  
As Introduced – February 16, 2011**

**AFTER SCHOOL EDUCATION AND SAFETY PROGRAM AND 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS FUNDING  
Fact Sheet**

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**SUMMARY**

SB 429 makes beneficial changes to the After School Education and Safety (ASES) and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers programs. SB 429 increase flexibility around the use of summer ASES and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC supplemental grants in order to maximize student attendance and increase student learning.

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**BACKGROUND**

In 2002, voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 49, the After School Education and Safety Program Act that expanded state investment in after school programs from \$120 million to \$550 million. California is also responsible for administering the federal after school program, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Program, bringing California's investment in after school programs to \$670 million annually. The programs collectively serve over 400,000 students.

Although California's investment in after school is significant, there is an unmet need during the summer months. Summer represents a critical time for children, particularly for low-income children who are disproportionately impacted by summer learning loss. Additionally, the health of students is at risk during the summer as access to nutritious meals and physical activity decreases.

Due to recent budget cuts, many districts have been forced to cut or severely reduce or eliminated summer school. As a result, summer learning programs that run alongside summer school to offer tutoring, homework assistance and educational enrichment have faced significant challenges. ASES and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC supplemental grantees need the flexibility to offer a program during hours that respond to student and family needs in the context of scaled back summer school options.

Many school districts have been forced to close school buildings for the summer in order to save money. The lack of school facilities has created an operational challenge for summer learning programs funded through ASES and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC which primarily operate through schools.

In addition, participation in ASES and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC funded programs is limited to the students attending the funded school. Therefore supplemental grantees are prohibited from offering services to students living in the vicinity of the program site, if they attend a school that has not been granted supplemental funding. However, some of these programs are undersubscribed in the summer and the resource could be maximized by allowing grantees to enroll children in the surrounding neighborhood.

Legislation is needed to solve these challenges to give more flexibility to supplemental learning programs and meet the specific needs of their students. California has a unique opportunity to build on the After School Education and Safety Program and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program by creating innovative summer programming that combats learning loss and sparks children's natural enthusiasm and curiosity.

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**PREVIOUS LEGISLATION**

SB 798 (DeSaulnier) of 2009 - Chaptered by Secretary of State

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**THIS BILL**

SB 429 would provide current after school grantees with supplemental grants flexibility to better address the needs of students and communities during the summer months. There is no cost for this flexibility, since the supplemental grants have already been allocated to these programs. This bill simply allows grantees to use their supplemental grants more

flexibly. Programs would be allowed to operate extended days, open programs to students throughout the district and operate at approved sites in the community.

SB 429 would make the following changes:

- Allow supplemental grantees to run either a 3 hour program at \$7.50 per child per day or a 6 hour program at \$15 per child per day.
- Allow supplemental grantees to enroll any student in the district if the program is not fully subscribed by children in the school boundaries.
- Clarify that supplemental grantees may operate at non-school sites, recognizing many districts are closing schools in the summer for budget reasons as long they notify the State Department of Education and include a plan to provide a free or reduced nutritious meal and safe transportation.

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#### **STATUS**

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February 24<sup>th</sup> – Referred to Committee on Rules

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#### **SUPPORT**

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- Tom Torlakson, Superintendent of Public Instruction (Sponsor)
- Partnership for Children and Youth (co-sponsor)
- Children Now (co-sponsor)

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#### **OPPOSITION**

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- No Opposition

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#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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