



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Amendment**

LCO No. 6741

\*SB0096706741SD0\*

Offered by:

SEN. SULLIVAN, 5<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. WILLIAMS, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. PETERS, 20<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. HANDLEY, 4<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. CRISCO, 17<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 967

File No. 192

Cal. No. 143

**"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS  
COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SERVICES FOR THE BLIND."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a  
4 council to monitor the activities of the Board of Education and Services  
5 for the Blind in carrying out its mission and statutorily prescribed  
6 duties.

7 (b) The council shall consist of the following members:

8 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
9 one who shall be a person with expertise in business administration  
10 and financial management and one who is a representative of a state-  
11 wide organization that represents the interests of the blind;

12 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
13 who shall be a person with expertise in business administration and  
14 financial management and one who is a representative of a state-wide  
15 organization that represents the interests of the blind;

16 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
17 Representatives who is a member of the Braille Literacy Council;

18 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who is a  
19 member of the Braille Literacy Council;

20 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
21 Representatives who is an adult with blindness, receiving services  
22 from the Board of Education and Services for the Blind;

23 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who is an  
24 adult with blindness, receiving services from the Board of Education  
25 and Services for the Blind;

26 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
27 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
28 relating to human services, or their designees;

29 (8) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
30 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
31 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, or their  
32 designees;

33 (9) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
34 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
35 relating to education, or their designees;

36 (10) The chairpersons of the legislative program and review  
37 committee, or their designees;

38 (11) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the  
39 secretary's designee;

40 (12) The executive director of the Board of Education and Services  
41 for the Blind, or the director's designee.

42 (c) Any member of the council appointed under subdivision (7), (8)  
43 or (9) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General  
44 Assembly.

45 (d) All appointments to the council shall be made no later than  
46 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
47 filled by the appointing authority.

48 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
49 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the council,  
50 from among the members of the council. Such chairpersons shall  
51 schedule the first meeting of the council, which shall be held not later  
52 than July 1, 2003. The council shall meet at least monthly thereafter.

53 (f) The council, in consultation with the Board of Education and  
54 Services for the Blind shall establish benchmarks concerning agency  
55 management, operations and services. The council shall monitor the  
56 activities of the Board of Education and Services for the Blind  
57 regarding: (1) The quality, efficiency and equity of (A) educational  
58 services for children who are blind or visually impaired, (B) home and  
59 daily living skills services for persons who are blind, (C) vocational  
60 rehabilitation services and programs for persons who are blind, (D)  
61 outreach efforts to identify and provide information and services to  
62 elderly persons who are blind, (2) the provision of employment  
63 training and experience in a competitive work environment and  
64 availability of the broadest employment and entrepreneurial  
65 opportunities for individuals who are blind, (3) the development and  
66 implementation of strategic planning efforts, (4) the accountability of  
67 fiscal operations, including, but not limited to, the preparation of a  
68 detailed program budget and expenditure reports, (5) agency  
69 implementation of the administrative recommendations contained in  
70 the December, 2002 Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
71 Committee on the Board of Education and Services vending

72 operations.

73 (g) Not later than February 1, 2004, and annually thereafter, the  
74 council shall submit a report on the progress made by the Board of  
75 Education and Services for the Blind in meeting benchmarks  
76 established by the council to the joint standing committee of the  
77 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
78 services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and  
79 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
80 general statutes. Such report shall also include legislative proposals  
81 and recommendations for proposed changes in the organizational  
82 structure of the Board of Education and Services for the Blind.

83 (h) Failure by the Board of Education and Services for the Blind to  
84 meet specific benchmarks established by the council may result in the  
85 transfer of authority and related funding for deficient programs and  
86 services to another state agency."