

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Dembrow, Harker, Huffman, Komp, Maurer, Roblan, Sprenger, Thatcher, VanOrman, Gelser
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Kevin T. Christiansen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/6, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Joint Boards of Education (Boards) to develop plan for offering applied baccalaureate degree program at community colleges and state institutions of higher education. Requires Boards to consider offering four types of applied baccalaureate degree programs: career ladder program; inverse program; management ladder program; and work experience program. Defines applied baccalaureate degree (Degree) as bachelor's degree designed to incorporate applied-associate courses and degrees with additional coursework emphasizing higher-order thinking skills and advanced technical knowledge and skills. Provides Boards' plan must include: 1) methods for Degree program creation; 2) criteria for approving Degree and course options; 3) articulation agreements between community colleges and state institutions of higher learning necessary to ensure Degree programs are widely available; 4) resources required to implement Degree; 5) timelines to implement Degree; and 6) recommendation as to whether community colleges should be allowed to offer applied baccalaureate degree. Requires Boards to submit report, with proposed legislation, to interim committee on higher education prior to November 1, 2010. Declares an emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Development of plans for applied baccalaureate degrees
- Varieties of applied baccalaureates
- Differences from existing degrees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires Boards to develop plans for offering applied baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges and state institutions of higher education, but permits Boards to consider offering career ladder, inverse, management ladder and work experience applied baccalaureate degree programs. Adds additional required element to Boards' Plan.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 3093A requires development of plans for purposes of offering applied baccalaureate degree programs at state colleges and universities. The applied baccalaureate degrees could include: 1) a career ladder program, requiring a substantial number of upper level classes in the same technical area of study as the student's applied associate degree; 2) an inverse program that reverses the traditional curriculum sequence; 3) a management ladder program combining associate degree requirements with applied-management-skills coursework; or 4) a work experience program combining general education and technical coursework with direct, supervised work experience in a relevant field. The measure also establishes the criteria that the Boards must consider in formulating a plan.