

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 40

Introduced by Senator Brian Jones

October 01, 2025

The purpose of this bill is to expand the potential opportunities high school graduates have.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SB 40, as introduced, Jones. California Student Readiness and Opportunity Act

Under existing law, high schools at the state level are not required to offer the ASVAB exam to students. Instead, participation in the ASVAB exam is completely optional and separated from high schools at the state level, with the exception of some schools that do offer said exam.

This bill will make it so that high schools in the state of California will now be required to offer the ASVAB exam to the current and all future senior classes. The goal of this bill is to expand the number of opportunities high school graduates possess. Taking the ASVAB could provide a vast range of career opportunities for graduates, from specialized roles in cyber security and defence to diverse positions in the medical field. Graduates could also take these skills and use them to build careers outside of the military. Careers ranging from simple bodyguard services to more complex careers such as being a surgeon.

The bill would not take up any state funds as the ASVAB exams are covered completely by the United States federal government. This bill would have to go through the Local Program Committee before being passed. If the bill is passed, it shall be implemented the following school year of 2026 - 2027.

Vote: **majority** or 2/3 Appropriation: yes/**no** Fiscal Committee: yes/**no** Local Program: **yes**/no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

All High Schools in California will be required to offer the ASVAB exam for any current and future Senior classes.

- (a) Students are not required by law to take this exam as it is completely optional.
- (b) Taking the ASVAB test will not impact a student's ability to graduate in any way, shape, or form.

SEC. 2.

In the rare circumstance that a high school senior is not old enough to take the ASVAB exam, all California high schools are still required to provide the option to take the ASVAB exam to said graduate regardless of the amount of time between the student's graduation and their 17th birthday.

- (a) This clause is meant to protect the graduate's right to take the ASVAB exam in the case that a student graduates from high school before they reach the age of 16 or 17.
 - (i) Students at the age of 17 are allowed to take the ASVAB but students at the age of 16 require parental consent before being able to take said exam.
- (b) The offer of the ASVAB exam will only remain valid up until 30 days after said student's 19th birthday.

SEC. 3.

As stated before this bill will have to be run by the Local Program Committee before being enacted and will not cost the state any money to implement.