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Education Data Systems: Overview of May Revision Proposals

LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

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Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1
On Education

Hon. Carol Liu, Chair





Governor's Education Data Proposals



Governor's May Revision Proposal

- Eliminates funding for the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) and the California Longitudinal Teacher Integrated Data Education System (CALTIDES).
- Maintains funding (\$6.4 million) for California School Information Services to provide ongoing data support to school districts.



LAO Concerns—Ending CALPADS Is Not in State or School Districts' Best Interests

- **Puts Federal Funds at Risk.** The state uses CALPADS to meet federal reporting requirements. Federal funds are at risk if state does not meet these requirements. In addition, CDE has already been awarded a \$6 million grant to develop a teacher data system.
- **Breaking Existing State Contract Likely to Increase Costs Over the Long Run.** Breaking contract now (in final year of development) leaves state and school districts without a user-friendly, efficient data system. State would need to start anew and redeveloping such systems likely would be substantially more expensive than finishing development of CALPADS and CALTIDES.
- **Reflects Big Step Backwards.** The state has made considerable improvements to its student data system over the last ten years. California now meets 9 of the 12 data requirements of the federal American COMPETES Act. Unclear why state would dismantle rather than improve system.



Recommend Funding Both Student and Teacher Data Systems

Education Data Systems: Expenditure Options

2011-12 (In Thousands)

	CDE Request	LAO Recommendation
CALPADS		
System technical maintenance	\$2,753	\$2,753
System improvements	1,491	1,491
CDE non-CALPADS staff ^a	974	687
CDE CALPADS staff ^b	879	665
Other agency charges (indirect)	405	405
Oversight	134	134
Totals	\$6,636	\$6,135
CALTIDES		
Contracts for CALTIDES development	\$600	\$600
CDE CALTIDES staff	560	560
Technical systems improvement contract	500	500
Other ^c	314	314
CTC staff	150	150
Totals	\$2,124	\$2,124

^a Reflects several non-CALPADS staff positions responsible for federal reporting.

^b Includes operating expenses and equipment (\$89,000). Also includes one-time funding for CDE Technical Lead (\$183,000).

^c Includes indirect costs (\$260,000), training (\$50,000), and other operating expenses.

CDE = California Department of Education; CALPADS = California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System; CALTIDES = California Longitudinal Teacher Integrated Data Education System; and CTC = Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

- ☒ Recommend funding CALPADS but slightly reducing staff support.
- ☒ Recommend funding CALTIDES at CDE-requested level.
- ☒ Both projects would be supported entirely with federal funds.