

**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Charter Amendment - Workforce Education and Recovery Fund for City College]

**Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2020, to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to establish the Workforce Education and Recovery Fund to provide financial support to City College of San Francisco for workforce and professional development programs, student support and wrap around services supporting student retention, and lifelong learning, enrichment, and social justice classes; and to require an annual appropriation in designated amounts to the Fund.**

Existing Law

In 2016, by ordinance, the City established the San Francisco City College Financial Assistance Fund as a category four fund to provide financial assistance to students at City College of San Francisco (“City College”). The ordinance further provided that the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families (“DCYF”) would administer the fund and use monies in the fund to make grants to reimburse City College for enrollment fees and other education-related financial support for students.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is a Charter amendment that establishes the Workforce Education and Recovery Fund for City College (“WERF”).

The proposal would require that the City appropriate monies in the WERF to City College as follows: one-third to fund workforce and professional development programs; one-third to fund student support services, classified staff support, wrap-around services supporting student retention, and classified professional development, and to support disadvantaged, low-income, immigrant, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer, women, disabled, and veteran students, and to meet students’ basic needs; and one-third to fund lifelong learning, enrichment, and social justice classes.

The proposal would require that, beginning in fiscal year 2021-2022, the City annually appropriate a “baseline amount” to the WERF as follows:

- Fiscal Year 2021-2022 \$20 million
- Fiscal Year 2022-2023 \$22 million
- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 \$24 million
- Fiscal Year 2024-2025 \$26 million
- Fiscal Year 2025-2026 \$28 million

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 \$30 million

The proposal would require that, for fiscal years 2027-2028 and thereafter, the Controller would adjust the baseline contribution by the percentage increase or decrease in aggregate City discretionary revenues.

The proposal would require that all disbursements from the WERF and from the baseline appropriations be subject to periodic audit by the Controller.

The proposal would require that City College submit a yearly expenditure plan for funding to be received from the WERF to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, in response to the Controller's March fund estimate for the coming fiscal year.

The proposal would require that City College establish a Community Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to the City College Board of Trustees on the use of the WERF, and that the Community Advisory Committee provide to the City College Board of Trustees an annual report providing recommendations for use of the WERF

The proposal would allow the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to suspend the City's disbursements from the WERF in whole or in part, and transfer the suspended amount, to San Francisco City College Financial Assistance Fund, for any year in which City College had failed to adopt the Controller's audit or reserve policy recommendations.

The proposal would allow the Board to proportionally reduce the contribution to WERF and the disbursements to City College if the voters adopted new, dedicated revenue sources for City College

The proposal would specify that, at the end of each fiscal year, any monies that remained uncommitted in the WERF would be returned to the General Fund.

The proposal would allow the City to suspend growth in the baseline for any year in which the Controller, projected a budget deficit of \$200 million or more. The proposal would allow the City to contribute more to the Fund than the annual baseline amounts required, without affecting the City's required baseline contribution.

This proposal would allow the Mayor, at any time after March 1, 2020, after consulting with the Controller and after taking into account the City's projected revenues and expenditures in the City's financial plans, to suspend implementation of the WERF by issuing a written notice of suspension to the Board of Supervisors and the Controller. Upon the Mayor's submittal of the notice to suspend, implementation of the WERF would be suspended, by operation of law, unless, by April 1, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to implement the WERF in the subsequent fiscal year and permanently thereafter.

FILE NO. 200508

This proposal also would specify that, if the City did not enact such a resolution by April 1, 2021, then implementation of the WERF would remain suspended in the subsequent fiscal year.

This proposal would specify that, following a suspension of implementation of the WERF, the Board of Supervisors could, by adoption of a resolution introduced at the first regular Board of Supervisors meeting in calendar years 2022, 2023, or 2024, implement the WERF in the subsequent fiscal year and permanently thereafter. This proposal would specify that, if the City did not enact a resolution, by December 31, 2024, then the WERF would become inoperative, by operation of law.

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