



August 26, 2015. Important update for school district leaders on SB 725.

Gov. Brown signs SB 725, class of 2015 exempt from CAHSEE

Bill removes exit exam requirement for 2015 graduates following July cancellation

On Wednesday, August 26, Gov. Jerry Brown signed SB 725 (Hancock). With the bill signed into law, students of the class of 2015, who have met all other requirements for graduation from grade 12, are now exempt from the requirement to pass the California High School Exit Exam and can receive their high school diploma.

With the passage of this legislation, school district leaders should be prepared to immediately issue diplomas to students who have met the necessary requirements for graduation in 2015, but have not passed the CAHSEE.

SB 725 moved quickly through the Legislature on an urgency basis in response to the Department of Education's decision to abruptly cancel the July offering of the CAHSEE. With the cancellation of the July test, an estimated 5,000-plus graduating students statewide have been left unable to meet the final graduation requirement.

In May, the CDE opted not to renew the contract for administration of the CAHSEE, amidst concerns that the test would be put on hold. SB 172 (Liu), a CSBA-supported bill currently moving through the Legislature, would suspend administration of the CAHSEE through the 2017-18 school year and remove the test as a graduation requirement for students graduating in that time frame, while recommendations on the continuation of an exit exam requirement or an alternative pathway are being developed to be presented to the State Board of Education and the Legislature.

Do you have questions regarding SB 725?

Contact Erika Hoffman, CSBA legislative advocate at (916) 669-2553 or [via email](#).