FACT SHEET
AB 1464 (Weber)
California State University: Tenure-Track Faculty

SUMMARY
AB 1464 places a plan in statute to achieve 75 percent density of tenured and tenure-track faculty at the California State University.

PROBLEM
The California State University serves more than 470,000 students at its 23 campuses across the state. Maintaining high quality education depends on recruitment and retention of high quality permanent faculty vested in the long-term health and growth of the university.

In 2001, Assembly Member Virginia Strom-Martin carried a resolution, ACR 73, that asked the California State University, the CSU Academic Senate and the California Faculty Association jointly to develop a plan to achieve improved tenured faculty density at the CSU. Their plan, completed in 2002, spelled out an eight-year schedule of new hires and lecturer conversions to shift tenure density at the university to 75% tenured and tenure-track faculty.

Although all faculty members play an important role in providing students access to high-quality educational experiences through direct instruction in the classroom or laboratory, the primary responsibility for student advising, program development and revision, and shared governance and implementation of university initiatives (such as student success and closing the achievement gap) lies with tenured and tenure-track faculty. The importance of recruitment and retention of tenured and tenure-track faculty has been recognized by the CSU Chancellor and the Board of Trustees, who contributed to and approved the implementation plan for the ACR 73 in 2002, while avoiding any adverse impact on current CSU lecturer employees.

The Board of Trustees and the CSU Chancellor’s Office again re-affirmed their commitment to strengthening CSU faculty ranks in the 2008 long term strategic plan, titled Access to Excellence, which states, “The CSU will develop a comprehensive plan for reinvestment in its faculty to meet its goals of reducing compensation gaps and increasing the number of tenure-track faculty. In addition, the CSU commits to a comprehensive faculty planning effort, to include turnover planning, attention to recruitment and retention practices, and consideration of faculty development and evaluation strategies to support excellence in both pedagogy and scholarship....”

SOLUTION
AB 1464 takes the 2002 joint report of the CSU, the Academic Senate and California Faculty Association and codifies its goals, placing into statute an eight-year strategy to improve tenured and tenure-track density at the CSU, with targets of 75 percent tenure density set for 2026.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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