

Governor signs bill making funding available for summer learning programs

By Theresa Harrington
Contra Costa Times

Posted: 10/01/2010 05:32:45 PM PDT

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed Senate Bill 798, authored by state Sen. Mark DeSaulnier, D-Concord, which makes funding available for summer learning programs serving low-income children throughout California.

Sponsored by Partnership for Children and Youth, the new law provides funding through California's federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, which also supports after-school programs. It's unclear how much California will receive, because the federal program's budget has yet to be finalized.

The funding is expected to help prevent "Summer Learning Loss," which has been found to contribute significantly to the achievement gap between low-income children and those from higher-income families, who can afford to send their children to summer camp or other enrichment programs, said Jennifer Peck, executive director of the Partnership for Children and Youth.



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The Mercury News

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