

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: 09/13/06**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Special Education Students and the California High School Exit Exam**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.**

**DISCUSSION: State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell joined State Secretary of Education Alan Bersin, State Majority Leader Gloria Romero, Assemblywoman Karen Bass, and State Board of Education Chief Counsel Paul Seave in announcing that legislation has been introduced reflecting an agreement regarding special education students and the California High School Exit Exam.**

**The bill, SB517 by Senator Romero, exempts students with disabilities from the requirement of passing the exam under certain circumstances. The delayed requirement is in effect for one year only and applies only to students with disabilities who have been identified to be on a diploma track for graduation in 2006.**

**To be granted a diploma, these students must have had an individualized education program (IEP) as of July 1, 2005, and have completed all other state and local graduation requirements in 2006. They must have taken the exit exam at least twice after the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, including once during their Senior year with any accommodation or modification specified in their IEPs.**

**This law will allow special education WIA enrolled participants to receive credit for their high school diploma without having passed the high school exit exam. This is a WIA performance measurable activity.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**