

AN ACT

relating to career and technical education provided by school districts and certain postsecondary institutions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.0022 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0022. REVIEW PANEL FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM. (a) Not later than November 1, 2007, the agency shall establish a panel under this section to:

(1) review and recommend revisions to the career and technical education curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(2)(F); and

(2) review and recommend revisions for the program in which high schools and articulated postsecondary institutions allow high school students to take advanced technical credit courses.

(b) The panel established under this section shall consist of:

(1) individuals who have expertise developing or administering career and technical education programs; and

(2) employers who hire students who have obtained certification or credentials under a career and technical education program.

(c) A member of the panel serves on a voluntary basis without compensation.

1 (d) Not later than November 1, 2008, the panel shall:

2 (1) complete the review as required by this section
3 of:

4 (A) the career and technical education
5 curriculum; and

6 (B) the program under which high schools and
7 articulated postsecondary institutions allow high school students
8 to take advanced technical credit courses; and

9 (2) make recommendations to the State Board of
10 Education as necessary to:

11 (A) increase the academic rigor of the career and
12 technical education curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(2)(F); and

13 (B) improve and increase participation in the
14 program under which high schools and articulated postsecondary
15 institutions allow high school students to take advanced technical
16 credit courses.

17 (e) Not later than September 1, 2009, the State Board of
18 Education by rule shall revise the essential knowledge and skills
19 of the career and technical education curriculum as provided by
20 Section 28.002(c) based on the recommendations of the panel under
21 Subsection (d). The State Board of Education shall require school
22 districts to provide instruction in the career and technical
23 education curriculum, as revised under this subsection, beginning
24 with the 2010-2011 school year.

25 (f) This section expires September 1, 2014.

26 SECTION 2. Section 28.009, Education Code, is amended by
27 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read

1 as follows:

2 (a) Each school district shall implement a program under
3 which students may earn the equivalent of at least 12 semester
4 credit hours of college credit in high school. On request, a public
5 institution of higher education in this state shall assist a school
6 district in developing and implementing the program. The college
7 credit may be earned through:

8 (1) international baccalaureate, advanced placement,
9 or dual credit courses;

10 (2) articulated postsecondary courses provided for
11 local credit or articulated postsecondary advanced technical
12 credit courses provided for state credit; or

13 (3) any combination of the courses described by
14 Subdivisions (1) and (2).

15 (c) Each school district shall annually report to the
16 agency:

17 (1) the number of district students, including career
18 and technical students, who have participated in the program and
19 earned college credit; and

20 (2) the cumulative number of courses in which
21 participating district students have enrolled and college credit
22 hours the students have earned.

23 (d) In this section:

24 (1) "Career and technical student" means:

25 (A) a secondary education student who has entered
26 the first course in a sequence of two or more technical courses for
27 three or more credits in a career and technical education program;

1 or

2 (B) a student who:

3 (i) is enrolled in an academic or workforce
4 course that is part of a sequence of courses leading to an
5 industry-recognized credential, certificate, or degree; and

6 (ii) has declared that sequence of courses
7 as the student's major course of study.

8 (2) "Sequence of courses" means career and technical
9 education courses approved by the State Board of Education,
10 innovative courses approved by the State Board of Education that
11 are provided for local credit, or a tech-prep program of study under
12 Section 61.852.

13 SECTION 3. Section 28.0212, Education Code, is amended by
14 adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

15 (g) Each school district is encouraged to establish for each
16 student entering grade nine a personal graduation plan that
17 identifies a course of study that:

18 (1) promotes:

19 (A) college and workforce readiness; and

20 (B) career placement and advancement; and

21 (2) facilitates the student's transition from
22 secondary to postsecondary education.

23 SECTION 4. Section 28.025, Education Code, is amended by
24 amending Subsection (b-1) and adding Subsection (b-2) to read as
25 follows:

26 (b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require
27 that:

1 (1) except as provided by Subsection (b-2), the
2 curriculum requirements for the recommended and advanced high
3 school programs under Subsection (a) include a requirement that
4 students successfully complete four courses in each subject of the
5 foundation curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1); and

6 (2) one or more courses offered in the required
7 curriculum for the recommended and advanced high school programs
8 include a research writing component.

9 (b-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
10 Board of Education shall allow a student to comply with the
11 curriculum requirements for a mathematics course under Subsection
12 (b-1)(1) taken after the successful completion of an Algebra II
13 course or science course under Subsection (b-1)(1) taken after the
14 successful completion of a physics course by successfully
15 completing an advanced career and technical course designated by
16 the State Board of Education as containing substantively similar
17 and rigorous academic content. A student may use the option
18 provided by this subsection for not more than two courses.

19 SECTION 5. Section 42.154, Education Code, is amended by
20 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

21 (a-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
22 the commissioner shall develop and implement a pilot program under
23 which a school district is entitled to additional funding for each
24 student receiving career and technology instruction in grade eight.
25 The commissioner shall select not more than five school districts
26 for participation in the pilot program. In selecting school
27 districts for participation, the commissioner shall consider

1 school districts that can provide services under the program at the
2 least cost. For each full-time equivalent student in grade eight in
3 average daily attendance in an approved career and technology
4 education program, a school district participating in the program
5 under this subsection is entitled to an annual allotment equal to
6 the adjusted basic allotment multiplied by a weight of 1.35. Funds
7 allocated under this subsection, other than an indirect cost
8 allotment established under State Board of Education rule, must be
9 used in providing career and technology programs in grade eight
10 under Sections 29.182, 29.183, and 29.184. A school district is
11 entitled to an allotment under this subsection for each school year
12 through the completion of the 2011-2012 school year. Not later than
13 January 1, 2013, the agency shall prepare and deliver to each member
14 of the legislature a report describing the effectiveness of the
15 pilot program described by this subsection. This subsection
16 expires February 1, 2013.

17 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all of the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3485 was passed by the House on May 9, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3485 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor