

1-1 By: Clardy (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 1583
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 28, 2015;
 1-3 May 4, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
 1-4 Education; May 24, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
 1-6 May 24, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1583 By: Bettencourt

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to block scheduling for certain associate degree and
 1-20 certificate programs at public junior colleges.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 130, Education Code, is
 1-23 amended by adding Section 130.0095 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 130.0095. BLOCK SCHEDULING FOR CERTAIN ASSOCIATE
 1-25 DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM. (a) To facilitate timely degree
 1-26 completion by students at public junior colleges, from among the
 1-27 allied health, nursing, and career and technology associate degree
 1-28 or certificate programs offered by a public junior college, the
 1-29 college shall establish, for at least five of those programs not
 1-30 previously offered as a block schedule curriculum, a block schedule
 1-31 curriculum under which:

1-32 (1) courses required for a student's enrollment in the
 1-33 program as a full-time student are offered each semester in
 1-34 scheduled blocks, such as a morning, full-day, afternoon, evening,
 1-35 or weekend block schedule, designed to provide scheduling
 1-36 predictability from semester to semester to students enrolled in
 1-37 the program; and

1-38 (2) students may enroll in an entire block schedule
 1-39 curriculum offered under the program in a semester, rather than
 1-40 enrolling in individual courses leading toward the degree or
 1-41 certificate.

1-42 (b) Each public junior college shall publish in advance of
 1-43 each semester the available block schedule curricula for each
 1-44 associate degree or certificate program described by Subsection (a)
 1-45 offered by the college for that semester.

1-46 (c) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in
 1-47 consultation with public junior colleges, shall adopt rules as
 1-48 necessary for the administration of this section, including rules
 1-49 prescribing a process by which a public junior college may petition
 1-50 the coordinating board for an exception to the number of programs
 1-51 for which a block schedule curriculum is required by Subsection (a)
 1-52 on demonstration of hardship.

1-53 (d) Not later than November 1, 2018, the Texas Higher
 1-54 Education Coordinating Board shall submit to the governor and
 1-55 legislature a detailed report on the effectiveness of block
 1-56 scheduling under this section and any related recommendations for
 1-57 legislative or other action.

1-58 (e) This section expires August 1, 2019.

1-59 SECTION 2. Section 130.0095, Education Code, as added by
 1-60 this Act, applies beginning with the 2016 fall semester.

2-1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-5 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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