

1-1 By: Garcia S.B. No. 1483  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2015; March 19, 2015, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 28, 2015,  
 1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the  
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0; April 28, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor of Galveston	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Campbell	X			
1-11 Garcia	X			
1-12 Huffines	X			
1-13 Kolthorst	X			
1-14 Rodríguez	X			
1-15 Seliger			X	
1-16 Taylor of Collin	X			
1-17 West	X			

1-19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1483 By: Garcia

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to Texas community schools.  
 1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
 1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding  
 1-25 Subchapter N to read as follows:  
 1-26 SUBCHAPTER N. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
 1-27 Sec. 29.551. DEFINITION. In this subchapter,  
 1-28 "community-based organization" means a nonprofit corporation or  
 1-29 association located in close proximity to the population the  
 1-30 organization serves.  
 1-31 Sec. 29.552. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A Texas  
 1-32 community school is a public elementary, middle, junior high, or  
 1-33 high school that partners with one or more community-based  
 1-34 organizations to coordinate academic, social, and health services  
 1-35 to reduce barriers to learning and improve the quality of education  
 1-36 for students in the community.  
 1-37 (b) A Texas community school offers a variety of programs  
 1-38 and services, which may include:  
 1-39 (1) early childhood education;  
 1-40 (2) after-school and summer school academic and  
 1-41 enrichment programs;  
 1-42 (3) college and career preparation;  
 1-43 (4) service learning opportunities, such as  
 1-44 internships and community service programs;  
 1-45 (5) leadership and mentoring programs;  
 1-46 (6) activities to encourage community and parent  
 1-47 engagement in students' education;  
 1-48 (7) health and social services for students and their  
 1-49 families; and  
 1-50 (8) parenting classes.  
 1-51 Sec. 29.553. TRANSITION TO TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A  
 1-52 public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school may  
 1-53 transition to a Texas community school if the school:  
 1-54 (1) establishes a school community partnership team to  
 1-55 function as the campus-level planning and decision-making  
 1-56 committee required under Section 11.251, composed of the members  
 1-57 required under Section 11.251 and additional community  
 1-58 representatives;  
 1-59 (2) conducts a comprehensive on-site needs assessment  
 1-60 using the guidelines and procedures described by Section 39.106(b);

2-1                   (3) establishes a partnership with a lead  
 2-2 community-based organization, such as Communities In Schools, a  
 2-3 social service provider, or an education or youth services  
 2-4 organization, that has experience in developing and implementing a  
 2-5 community school plan;  
 2-6                   (4) develops a community school plan that satisfies  
 2-7 the requirements for a campus improvement plan under Section  
 2-8 11.253; and  
 2-9                   (5) gains approval for the community school plan from:  
 2-10                   (A) at least 75 percent of campus faculty and  
 2-11 staff and 75 percent of parents of students enrolled at the school;  
 2-12 and  
 2-13                   (B) the board of trustees of the school district  
 2-14 in which the school is located.  
 2-15                   (b) A school that transitions to a Texas community school  
 2-16 under Subsection (a) shall hire a new employee or designate a school  
 2-17 district employee or an employee of a community-based organization  
 2-18 with experience in developing and implementing a community school  
 2-19 plan as the community school coordinator for the school. The  
 2-20 coordinator's duties include:  
 2-21                   (1) recruiting community partners and building  
 2-22 community support for the school;  
 2-23                   (2) coordinating:  
 2-24                   (A) the school community partnership team's  
 2-25 planning and training activities;  
 2-26                   (B) planning and evaluation efforts between the  
 2-27 school and community partners;  
 2-28                   (C) academic and student and family support  
 2-29 programs; and  
 2-30                   (D) after-school, summer, and enrichment  
 2-31 programs for students;  
 2-32                   (3) encouraging community and parent engagement in the  
 2-33 school;  
 2-34                   (4) seeking available resources for implementing  
 2-35 community school programs and services;  
 2-36                   (5) conducting an annual needs assessment of the  
 2-37 school in coordination with the school community partnership team;  
 2-38                   (6) acting as a liaison between the school, other  
 2-39 community schools, the school district, and community partners; and  
 2-40                   (7) developing a plan for sustaining the community  
 2-41 school plan.  
 2-42                   (c) In developing or implementing a community school plan,  
 2-43 the school may seek assistance from other community schools,  
 2-44 regional education service centers, or technical assistance  
 2-45 providers.  
 2-46                   (d) For purposes of Subsection (c), a technical assistance  
 2-47 provider is a public or private entity that has experience in  
 2-48 developing and implementing a community school plan and that  
 2-49 provides:  
 2-50                   (1) professional development, training, technical  
 2-51 assistance, coaching, or quality assurance activities to assist  
 2-52 schools in transitioning to a Texas community school, sustaining  
 2-53 the community school plan, or maximizing the effectiveness of that  
 2-54 plan; or  
 2-55                   (2) capacity-building training to regional education  
 2-56 service centers to enable the centers to support a school's  
 2-57 transition to a Texas community school or assist the school in  
 2-58 sustaining the school's community school plan.  
 2-59                   Sec. 29.554. COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT OVERSIGHT. A school  
 2-60 that transitions to a Texas community school shall:  
 2-61                   (1) hold a community meeting at least twice each year  
 2-62 to:  
 2-63                   (A) inform community stakeholders about the  
 2-64 school's progress in implementing the community school plan; and  
 2-65                   (B) seek community input regarding any  
 2-66 improvements or changes that could be made to the plan; and  
 2-67                   (2) report annually to the board of trustees of the  
 2-68 school district in which the school is located regarding the  
 2-69 school's progress in implementing the plan.

3-1 Sec. 29.555. LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS. (a) A school  
 3-2 community partnership team formed by a school with performance  
 3-3 below any standard under Section 39.054(e) functions as the campus  
 3-4 intervention team for purposes of Section 39.106.

3-5 (b) A low-performing school transitioning to a Texas  
 3-6 community school shall receive district-level support to assist the  
 3-7 school in developing and implementing the community school plan.  
 3-8 The support must continue for at least two school years after the  
 3-9 school successfully meets the standards under Section 39.054(e).

3-10 Sec. 29.556. FUNDING. A Texas community school or a school  
 3-11 transitioning to a Texas community school may seek and accept  
 3-12 gifts, grants, donations, and funds from federal and state agencies  
 3-13 and private sources for purposes related to the school's function  
 3-14 as a Texas community school.

3-15 Sec. 29.557. RECOGNITION AS TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A  
 3-16 school that transitions to a Texas community school shall be  
 3-17 recognized by the state as a Texas community school.

3-18 (b) The agency shall develop methods for recognizing a  
 3-19 school as a Texas community school.

3-20 Sec. 29.558. RULES. The commissioner may adopt rules as  
 3-21 necessary to implement this subchapter.

3-22 SECTION 2. Sections 39.106(c) and (f), Education Code, are  
 3-23 amended to read as follows:

3-24 (c) On completing the on-site needs assessment under this  
 3-25 section, the campus intervention team shall, with the involvement  
 3-26 and advice of the school community partnership team, if applicable,  
 3-27 recommend actions relating to any area of insufficient performance,  
 3-28 including:

- 3-29 (1) reallocation of resources;
- 3-30 (2) technical assistance;
- 3-31 (3) changes in school procedures or operations;
- 3-32 (4) staff development for instructional and  
 3-33 administrative staff;
- 3-34 (5) intervention for individual administrators or  
 3-35 teachers;
- 3-36 (6) waivers from state statutes or rules;
- 3-37 (7) teacher recruitment or retention strategies and  
 3-38 incentives provided by the district to attract and retain teachers  
 3-39 with the characteristics included in Subsection (b)(1); ~~or~~

3-40 (8) transition to a Texas community school under  
 3-41 Subchapter N, Chapter 29; or

3-42 (9) other actions the campus intervention team  
 3-43 considers appropriate.

3-44 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter,  
 3-45 if the commissioner determines that a campus for which an  
 3-46 intervention is ordered under Subsection (a) is not fully  
 3-47 implementing the campus intervention team's recommendations or  
 3-48 targeted improvement plan or updated plan, the commissioner may:

3-49 (1) order the reconstitution of the campus as provided  
 3-50 by Section 39.107; or

3-51 (2) approve the campus's transition to a Texas  
 3-52 community school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, on request from  
 3-53 the principal of the campus.

3-54 SECTION 3. Section 39.107, Education Code, is amended by  
 3-55 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-2) and (s) to  
 3-56 read as follows:

3-57 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-2), after ~~After~~ a campus has  
 3-58 been identified as unacceptable for two consecutive school years,  
 3-59 the commissioner shall order the reconstitution of the campus.

3-60 (a-2) A campus may elect to transition to a Texas community  
 3-61 school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, instead of reconstitution  
 3-62 under this section if the campus:

3-63 (1) notifies the commissioner of the campus's election  
 3-64 not later than two weeks after the date on which the commissioner  
 3-65 orders reconstitution under Subsection (a); and

3-66 (2) satisfies the requirements of transitioning to a  
 3-67 Texas community school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, not later  
 3-68 than six months after the date on which the commissioner orders  
 3-69 reconstitution under Subsection (a).

4-1 (s) The commissioner may not order the closure of a campus  
 4-2 under this section without giving the campus the opportunity to  
 4-3 transition to a Texas community school under Subchapter N, Chapter  
 4-4 29, and at least two years to implement the campus's community  
 4-5 school plan.

4-6 SECTION 4. Section 29.259, Education Code, is transferred  
 4-7 to Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, and redesignated as  
 4-8 Section 29.923, Education Code, to read as follows:

4-9 Sec. 29.923 [~~29.259~~]. ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND  
 4-10 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION CHARTER SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this  
 4-11 section, "adult education" means services and instruction provided  
 4-12 below the college level for adults by a nonprofit entity described  
 4-13 by Subsection (e).

4-14 (b) The commissioner shall establish an adult high school  
 4-15 diploma and industry certification charter school pilot program as  
 4-16 provided by this section as a strategy for meeting industry needs  
 4-17 for a sufficiently trained workforce within the state.

4-18 (c) The agency shall adopt and administer a standardized  
 4-19 secondary exit-level assessment instrument appropriate for  
 4-20 assessing adult education program participants who successfully  
 4-21 complete high school curriculum requirements under a program  
 4-22 provided under this section. The commissioner shall determine the  
 4-23 level of performance considered to be satisfactory on the secondary  
 4-24 exit-level assessment instrument for receipt of a high school  
 4-25 diploma by an adult education program participant in a program  
 4-26 provided under this section.

4-27 (d) Notwithstanding any other law and in addition to the  
 4-28 number of charters allowed under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, a  
 4-29 charter under the pilot program may, on the basis of an application  
 4-30 submitted, be granted to a single nonprofit entity described by  
 4-31 Subsection (e) to provide an adult education program for not more  
 4-32 than 150 individuals described by Subsection (g) to successfully  
 4-33 complete:

4-34 (1) a high school program that can lead to a diploma;  
 4-35 and

4-36 (2) career and technology education courses that can  
 4-37 lead to industry certification.

4-38 (e) A nonprofit entity may be granted a charter under this  
 4-39 section only if the entity:

4-40 (1) has a successful history of providing education  
 4-41 services, including industry certifications and job placement  
 4-42 services, to adults 18 years of age and older whose educational and  
 4-43 training opportunities have been limited by educational  
 4-44 disadvantages, disabilities, homelessness, criminal history, or  
 4-45 similar circumstances; and

4-46 (2) agrees to commit at least \$1 million to the adult  
 4-47 education program offered.

4-48 (f) A nonprofit entity granted a charter under this section  
 4-49 may partner with a public junior college to provide career and  
 4-50 technology courses that lead to industry certification.

4-51 (g) A person who is at least 19 years of age and not more  
 4-52 than 50 years of age is eligible to enroll in the adult education  
 4-53 program under this section if the person has not earned a high  
 4-54 school equivalency certificate and:

4-55 (1) has failed to complete the curriculum requirements  
 4-56 for high school graduation; or

4-57 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on an  
 4-58 assessment instrument required for high school graduation.

4-59 (h) The nonprofit entity must include in its charter  
 4-60 application the information required by Subsection (i).

4-61 (i) A charter granted under this section must:

4-62 (1) include a description of the adult education  
 4-63 program to be offered under this section; and

4-64 (2) establish specific, objective standards for  
 4-65 receiving a high school diploma, including satisfactory  
 4-66 performance on the standardized secondary exit-level assessment  
 4-67 instrument described by Subsection (c).

4-68 (j) Funding for an adult education program under this  
 4-69 section is provided based on the following:

5-1 (1) for participants who are 26 years of age and older,  
5-2 an amount per participant from available general revenue funds  
5-3 appropriated for the pilot program equal to the statewide average  
5-4 amount of state funding per student in weighted average daily  
5-5 attendance that would be allocated under the Foundation School  
5-6 Program to an open-enrollment charter school under Section 12.106  
5-7 were the student under 26 years of age; and

5-8 (2) for participants who are at least 19 years of age  
5-9 and under 26 years of age, an amount per participant through the  
5-10 Foundation School Program equal to the amount of state funding per  
5-11 student in weighted average daily attendance that would be  
5-12 allocated under the Foundation School Program for the student's  
5-13 attendance at an open-enrollment charter school in accordance with  
5-14 Section 12.106.

5-15 (k) Sections 12.107 and 12.128 apply as though funds under  
5-16 this section were funds under Subchapter D, Chapter 12.

5-17 (1) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,  
5-18 beginning December 1, 2016, the agency shall prepare and deliver to  
5-19 the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of  
5-20 representatives, and presiding officer of each standing  
5-21 legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over public  
5-22 education or economic development a report that:

5-23 (1) evaluates any adult education program operated  
5-24 under a charter granted under this section; and

5-25 (2) makes recommendations regarding the abolition,  
5-26 continuation, or expansion of the pilot program.

5-27 (m) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to  
5-28 administer the pilot program under this section. In adopting  
5-29 rules, the commissioner may modify charter school requirements only  
5-30 to the extent necessary for the administration of a charter school  
5-31 under this section that provides for adult education.

5-32 SECTION 5. Section 42.003(a), Education Code, is amended to  
5-33 read as follows:

5-34 (a) A student is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation  
5-35 School Program if, on September 1 of the school year, the student:

5-36 (1) is 5 years of age or older and under 21 years of age  
5-37 and has not graduated from high school, or is at least 21 years of  
5-38 age and under 26 years of age and has been admitted by a school  
5-39 district to complete the requirements for a high school diploma; or

5-40 (2) is at least 19 years of age and under 26 years of  
5-41 age and is enrolled in an adult high school diploma and industry  
5-42 certification charter school pilot program under Section 29.923  
5-43 [~~29.259~~].

5-44 SECTION 6. (a) The heading to Subchapter H, Chapter 29,  
5-45 Education Code, is repealed.

5-46 (b) Sections 7.021(b)(8), 7.102(c)(17), 29.251, 29.252,  
5-47 29.255, 29.256, and 29.257, Education Code, are repealed.

5-48 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5-49 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5-50 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
5-51 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5-52 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

5-53 \* \* \* \* \*