

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 2131  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2017; March 28, 2017, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 12, 2017,  
 1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0;  
 1-5 April 12, 2017, 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 Hall               |     |     | X      |     |
| 1-12 Huffines           | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-13 Hughes             | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-14 Seliger            | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-15 Taylor of Collin   | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-16 Uresti             | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-17 West               | X   |     |        |     |

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to requirements for providing postsecondary education  
 1-22 counseling to high school students.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 33.007, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-25 read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 33.007. COUNSELING REGARDING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.

1-27 (a) Each school counselor at an elementary, middle, or junior high  
 1-28 school, including an open-enrollment charter school offering those  
 1-29 grades, shall advise students and their parents or guardians  
 1-30 regarding the importance of postsecondary education, coursework  
 1-31 designed to prepare students for postsecondary education, and  
 1-32 financial aid availability and requirements.

1-33 (b) During the first school year a student is enrolled in a  
 1-34 high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment  
 1-35 charter school, and again during each year of a student's  
 1-36 enrollment in high school or at the high school level, a school  
 1-37 counselor shall provide information about postsecondary education  
 1-38 to the student and the student's parent or guardian. The  
 1-39 information must include information accessible through the  
 1-40 database of required lower division courses for specific majors, as  
 1-41 well as information regarding:

1-42 (1) the importance of postsecondary education;

1-43 (2) the advantages of earning an endorsement and a  
 1-44 performance acknowledgment and completing the distinguished level  
 1-45 of achievement under the foundation high school program under  
 1-46 Section 28.025;

1-47 (3) the disadvantages of taking courses to prepare for  
 1-48 a high school equivalency examination relative to the benefits of  
 1-49 taking courses leading to a high school diploma;

1-50 (4) financial aid eligibility;

1-51 (5) instruction on how to apply for federal financial  
 1-52 aid;

1-53 (6) the center for financial aid information  
 1-54 established under Section 61.0776;

1-55 (7) the automatic admission of certain students to  
 1-56 general academic teaching institutions as provided by Section  
 1-57 51.803;

1-58 (8) the eligibility and academic performance  
 1-59 requirements for the TEXAS Grant as provided by Subchapter M,  
 1-60 Chapter 56; ~~and~~

1-61 (9) the availability of advanced academic programs in

2-1 the district under which a student may earn college credit,  
2-2 including advanced placement programs[~~, dual credit programs,~~  
2-3 ~~joint high school and college credit programs,~~] and international  
2-4 baccalaureate programs; and

2-5 (10) the availability of dual credit and joint high  
2-6 school and college credit programs, including the types of dual  
2-7 credit offered (core curriculum courses versus career and technical  
2-8 education courses) and the transferability and application of dual  
2-9 credit offerings to regional junior or community colleges, public  
2-10 technical colleges, and four-year colleges and universities.

2-11 (c) Schools and districts shall post on their website and  
2-12 update annually the information articulated in Subsection (b)(10)  
2-13 related to dual credit and joint high school and college credit  
2-14 programs.

2-15 (d) School counselors shall note on each student's  
2-16 transcript verification of advising, giving the date and time of  
2-17 advising. Counselors shall also note whether advising was provided  
2-18 by Advise Texas or some other counseling provider.

2-19 (e) [~~(e)~~] At the beginning of grades 10 and 11, a school  
2-20 counselor certified under the rules of the State Board for Educator  
2-21 Certification shall explain the requirements of automatic  
2-22 admission to a general academic teaching institution under Section  
2-23 51.803 to each student enrolled in a high school or at the high  
2-24 school level in an open-enrollment charter school who has a grade  
2-25 point average in the top 25 percent of the student's high school  
2-26 class.

2-27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-31 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

2-32

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