

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 1277  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2021; March 18, 2021, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 23, 2021,  
 1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0;  
 1-5 April 23, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Hall			X	
1-11 Hughes	X			
1-12 Menéndez	X			
1-13 Paxton	X			
1-14 Perry	X			
1-15 Powell	X			
1-16 Schwertner	X			
1-17 West	X			

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

1-21 relating to an agreement between a school district and public  
 1-22 institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program to  
 1-23 high school students enrolled in the district.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section 28.009(b-2), Education Code, as amended  
 1-26 by Chapters 264 (S.B. 1276) and 901 (H.B. 3650), Acts of the 86th  
 1-27 Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, is reenacted and amended to  
 1-28 read as follows:

1-29 (b-2) Any agreement, including a memorandum of  
 1-30 understanding or articulation agreement, between a school district  
 1-31 and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit  
 1-32 program described by Subsection (b-1) must:

1-33 (1) include specific program goals aligned with the  
 1-34 statewide goals developed under Subsection (b-1);

1-35 (2) establish common advising strategies and  
 1-36 terminology related to dual credit and college readiness;

1-37 (3) provide for the alignment of endorsements  
 1-38 described by Section 28.025(c-1) offered by the district, and dual  
 1-39 credit courses offered under the agreement that apply towards those  
 1-40 endorsements, with postsecondary pathways and credentials at the  
 1-41 institution and industry certifications;

1-42 (4) identify tools, including tools developed by the  
 1-43 agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, or the Texas  
 1-44 Workforce Commission, to assist school counselors, students, and  
 1-45 families in selecting endorsements offered by the district and dual  
 1-46 credit courses offered under the agreement;

1-47 (5) establish, or provide a procedure for  
 1-48 establishing, the course credits that may be earned under the  
 1-49 agreement, including by developing a course equivalency crosswalk  
 1-50 or other method for equating high school courses with college  
 1-51 courses and identifying the number of credits that may be earned for  
 1-52 each course completed through the program;

1-53 (6) describe the academic supports and, if applicable,  
 1-54 guidance that will be provided to students participating in the  
 1-55 program;

1-56 (7) establish the district's and the institution's  
 1-57 respective roles and responsibilities in providing the program and  
 1-58 ensuring the quality and instructional rigor of the program;

1-59 (8) state the sources of funding for courses offered  
 1-60 under the program, including, at a minimum, the sources of funding  
 1-61 for tuition, transportation, and any required fees or textbooks for

2-1 students participating in the program;  
2-2 (9) require the district and the institution to  
2-3 consider the use of free or low-cost open educational resources in  
2-4 courses offered under the program; ~~and~~  
2-5 (10) ~~(7)~~ be posted each year on the district's and  
2-6 the institution's respective Internet websites; and  
2-7 (11) designate at least one employee of the district  
2-8 or institution as responsible for providing academic advising to a  
2-9 student who enrolls in a dual credit course under the program before  
2-10 the student begins the course.

2-11 SECTION 2. Section 28.009(b-2), Education Code, as  
2-12 reenacted and amended by this Act, applies only to an agreement to  
2-13 provide a dual credit program entered into or renewed on or after  
2-14 September 1, 2021. An agreement to provide a dual credit program  
2-15 entered into or renewed before September 1, 2021, is governed by the  
2-16 law as it existed at the time the agreement was entered into or  
2-17 renewed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

2-18 SECTION 3. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails  
2-19 over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021,  
2-20 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted  
2-21 codes.

2-22 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-26 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

2-27 \* \* \* \* \*