

By: Allen

H.B. No. 5111

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requirements for the early college education program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 29.908, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (b-3) and (h) to read as follows:

(b) The program must:

(1) provide for a course of study that enables a participating student to combine high school courses and college-level courses during grade levels 9 through 12;

(2) allow a participating student to complete high school and, on or before the fifth anniversary of the date of the student's first day of high school, receive a high school diploma and either:

(A) an associate degree; or

(B) at least 60 semester credit hours toward a baccalaureate degree;

(3) include articulation agreements with colleges, universities, and technical schools in this state to provide a participating student access to postsecondary educational and training opportunities at a college, university, or technical school; ~~and~~

(4) provide a participating student flexibility in class scheduling and academic mentoring;

1 (5) allow a student to participate in the program
2 without receiving a scale score that indicates satisfactory
3 performance on a college readiness assessment instrument
4 designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under
5 Section 51.334; and

6 (6) provide flexibility for school districts' and
7 open-enrollment charter schools' committees described by
8 Subsection (b-3) to have discretion over the eligibility of a
9 student to participate in the program, including by allowing the
10 student to be exempt from an assessment requirement related to the
11 program.

12 (b-3) A student's eligibility to participate in the program
13 shall be determined by, as applicable:

14 (1) the student's admission, review, and dismissal
15 committee;

16 (2) a committee established for the student under
17 Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794); or

18 (3) if Subdivisions (1) and (2) are not applicable to
19 the student, a committee composed of the student, the student's
20 parent or person standing in parental relation to the student, a
21 school administrator, and a teacher.

22 (h) A high school designated as an early college high school
23 shall report through the Public Education Information System
24 (PEIMS) the number of students who were dismissed before graduating
25 from the high school in conjunction with the student's performance
26 on applicable Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness
27 benchmarks prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating

1 Board under Section 51.334 on an assessment instrument designated
2 by the coordinating board under that section, disaggregated by
3 students' race, ethnicity, sex, grade level, and status as:

- 4 (1) students enrolled in a special education program;
5 (2) educationally disadvantaged students;
6 (3) emergent bilingual students, as defined by Section
7 29.052; and
8 (4) students experiencing homelessness.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.