

AN ACT

relating to college, career, and military readiness in public schools, including career and technology education programs, the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) program, and the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program, funding for those programs under the Foundation School Program, and workforce reporting to support those programs, to the public school accountability system, and to the new instructional facility allotment and the permissible uses of funding under the Foundation School Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 4.002, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4.002. PUBLIC EDUCATION ACADEMIC GOALS. To serve as a foundation for a well-balanced and appropriate education:

GOAL 1: The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the reading and writing of the English language.

GOAL 2: The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the understanding of mathematics.

GOAL 3: The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the understanding of science.

GOAL 4: The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the understanding of social studies.

GOAL 5: The students who graduate high school in the public education system will have the skills and credentials necessary to immediately enter this state's workforce.

GOAL 6: The students who graduate high school in the public education system and who elect to pursue postsecondary education will be ready for postsecondary coursework without the need for remediation.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 7, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 7.0405 and 7.043 to read as follows:

Sec. 7.0405. POSTING OF POSTSECONDARY OUTCOMES. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), the agency shall post on the agency's Internet website the following de-identified data, disaggregated by school district or open-enrollment charter school, high school campus, and annual cohort for the 10 most recent annual cohorts:

(1) for students who graduate from high school:

(A) the number and percentage of students who enroll in, enroll in remedial postsecondary coursework as part of, persist for at least one year in, or complete a postsecondary degree, certificate, or other credentialing program, disaggregated by program and postsecondary educational institution; and

(B) employment status, occupation, industry, wage, and county of employment and residence, as reported under Section 204.0025, Labor Code; and

(2) for students who did not graduate from high

school:

(A) the highest grade level completed;

(B) for each cohort for which data is available, employment status, occupation, industry, wage, and county of employment and residence, as reported under Section 204.0025, Labor Code; and

(C) whether the student has earned a high school equivalency certificate.

(a-1) The agency is required to provide data regarding students who graduate from high school and enroll in remedial postsecondary coursework as part of a postsecondary degree, certificate, or other credentialing program under Subsection (a)(1)(A) only to the extent that data is available.

(b) The agency shall post the data required under Subsection (a) in a manner that complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g) and may, if necessary to comply with that act, create a private portal for school district board of trustees or open-enrollment charter school governing body members, school administrators, and school counselors at a high school to access data for the member's, administrator's, or counselor's school district or open-enrollment charter school.

(c) The agency shall ensure the data posted under Subsection (a) is made available to:

(1) school district board of trustees and open-enrollment charter school governing body members and superintendents to assist in adopting college, career, and military readiness plans under Section 11.186; and

1 (2) school counselors at a high school to assist the
2 counselors in performing the duties under Section 33.007.

3 Sec. 7.043. STATEWIDE GOAL FOR CAREER READINESS. (a) Using
4 the data posted under Section 7.0405(a), the agency shall create a
5 quantifiable statewide goal for public school students to achieve
6 career readiness, including by attaining a workforce-aligned
7 credential while in high school.

8 (b) The agency shall update the goal created under
9 Subsection (a) at least once every five years.

10 SECTION 3. Section 11.186, Education Code, is amended by
11 amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsections (d), (e),
12 and (f) to read as follows:

13 (b) Each plan adopted under Subsection (a) must:

14 (1) identify annual goals for students in each group
15 evaluated under the closing the gaps domain under Section
16 39.053(c)(3);

17 (2) include an annual goal ~~[goals]~~ for aggregate
18 student growth on each college, career, and military readiness
19 indicator ~~[indicators]~~ evaluated under the student achievement
20 domain under Section 39.053(c)(1);

21 (3) include specific annual goals for student
22 completion while enrolled in high school of postsecondary
23 credentials, including industry-based credentials, level one or
24 level two certificates, and associate degrees, prioritizing
25 credentials identified in the long-range master plan for higher
26 education established under Section 61.051 and the performance tier
27 funding for public junior colleges for credentials of value under

1 Section 130A.101;

2 (4) include annual goals for the outcomes of the
3 district's annual graduates at one, three, and five years after
4 graduation from high school, including goals for:

5 (A) the rate of enrollment at a postsecondary
6 educational institution;

7 (B) the percentage of graduates who enroll at a
8 postsecondary educational institution and do not require remedial
9 postsecondary coursework;

10 (C) the rate of persistence at a postsecondary
11 educational institution in each of the first two years of
12 enrollment;

13 (D) the rate of completion of a postsecondary
14 degree, certificate, or other credentialing program; and

15 (E) wages earned;

16 (5) assign at least one district-level administrator
17 or employee of the regional education service center for the
18 district's region to:

19 (A) coordinate implementation of the plan; and

20 (B) submit an annual report to the board of
21 trustees, the agency, and the Legislative Budget Board on the
22 district's performance and progress toward the goals set under the
23 plan; and

24 (6) [~~4~~] be reviewed and approved by majority vote
25 annually by the board of trustees at a public meeting.

26 (c) In identifying and including goals in each plan adopted
27 under Subsection (a) as provided by Subsection (b), the board of

1 trustees shall use longitudinal student outcomes data posted under
2 Section 7.0405(a) and any other resources available to the board.

3 (d) A school district shall post the annual report described
4 by Subsection (b)(5)(B) [~~(b)(3)(B)~~] on the district's Internet
5 website and on the Internet website, if any, of each campus in the
6 district not later than two weeks before the date of the public
7 meeting at which the report is reviewed and approved as required by
8 Subsection (b)(6). The district shall update the annual report on
9 each Internet website if any modifications are made to the report by
10 the board of trustees.

11 (e) The commissioner by rule shall establish a deadline for
12 the submission of the annual reports described by Subsection
13 (b)(5)(B). The agency shall compile and make publicly accessible on
14 the agency's Internet website the annual reports.

15 (f) The agency may evaluate the goals identified or included
16 in an annual report described by Subsection (b)(5)(B) to determine
17 whether those goals align with state secondary, postsecondary, and
18 workforce goals.

19 SECTION 4. Section 28.0095, Education Code, is amended by
20 adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

21 (c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (c)(1)(A), a student
22 otherwise described by Subsection (c) is eligible to enroll at no
23 cost in a dual credit course under the program if the student has
24 graduated from high school but is:

25 (1) enrolled in a school district or open-enrollment
26 charter school at a campus designated as a P-TECH school under
27 Section 29.556 or in a school district participating in a

partnership under Section 29.912; and

(2) completing a course of study offered through an articulation agreement or memorandum of understanding with an institution of higher education and the district or school described by Subdivision (1), as applicable, under the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, or the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program under Section 29.912.

SECTION 5. Section 29.182(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The state plan must include procedures designed to ensure that:

(1) all secondary and postsecondary students have the opportunity to participate in career and technology education programs;

(2) the state complies with requirements for supplemental federal career and technology education funding;

(3) career and technology education is established as a part of the total education system of this state and constitutes an option for student learning that provides a rigorous course of study consistent with the required curriculum under Section 28.002 and under which a student may receive specific education in a career and technology program that:

(A) incorporates competencies leading to academic and technical skill attainment;

(B) leads to:

(i) an industry-recognized license,

1 credential, or certificate; or

2 (ii) at the postsecondary level, an
3 associate or baccalaureate degree;

4 (C) includes opportunities for students to earn
5 college credit for coursework; and

6 (D) includes, as an integral part of the program,
7 participation by students and teachers in activities of career and
8 technical student organizations supported by the agency and the
9 State Board of Education; ~~and~~

10 (4) a school district provides, to the greatest extent
11 possible, to a student participating in a career and technology
12 education program opportunities to enroll in dual credit courses
13 designed to lead to a degree, license, or certification as part of
14 the program; and

15 (5) a course of study offered under a Junior Reserve
16 Officers' Training Corps program established under 10 U.S.C.
17 Section 2031 is considered a career and technology education
18 program.

19 SECTION 6. Sections 29.190(a-1), (b), and (c), Education
20 Code, are amended to read as follows:

21 (a-1) A student may not receive more than two subsidies ~~[one~~
22 ~~subsidy]~~ under this section.

23 (b) A teacher is entitled to a subsidy under this section if
24 the teacher passes a certification examination related to career
25 and technology education ~~[cybersecurity]~~.

26 (c) On approval by the commissioner, the agency shall pay
27 each school district an amount equal to the cost paid by the

1 district for a certification examination under this section,
2 including any costs paid for associated fingerprinting or criminal
3 history record information review. To obtain reimbursement for a
4 subsidy paid under this section, a district must:

5 (1) pay the costs described by this subsection [~~fee~~
6 ~~for the examination~~]; and

7 (2) submit to the commissioner a written application
8 on a form prescribed by the commissioner stating the amount of the
9 costs [~~fee~~] paid under Subdivision (1) [~~for the certification~~
10 ~~examination~~].

11 SECTION 7. Subchapter 2, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
12 amended by adding Section 29.9017 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 29.9017. NOTICE REGARDING MILITARY-RELATED TRAINING
14 PROGRAMS. (a) As part of the high school registration process and
15 annually, a school district or open-enrollment charter school shall
16 notify the parent or guardian of each student enrolled in a Junior
17 Reserve Officers' Training Corps program established under 10
18 U.S.C. Section 2031 regarding any early registration or scholarship
19 program available to students in military-related training
20 programs.

21 (b) The notice required under Subsection (a) must provide
22 the student's parent or guardian with the option to share the
23 student's data with one or more public institutions of higher
24 education for the purpose of learning about any opportunity to
25 participate in an early registration or scholarship program
26 described by Subsection (a), including:

27 (1) the student's directory contact information;

1 (2) the student's education records; or

2 (3) any other information prescribed by the agency, in
3 coordination with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board,
4 that would allow the student to learn about an opportunity to
5 participate in military-related training programs at public
6 institutions of higher education, including financial aid or
7 scholarship programs.

8 SECTION 8. Section 29.912, Education Code, is amended by
9 adding Subsection (c-1) and amending Subsection (j) to read as
10 follows:

11 (c-1) A school district that has participated in the program
12 may continue to participate in the program regardless of the number
13 of students in average daily attendance in the district for the
14 current school year.

15 (j) The commissioner shall make grants available for use by
16 a coordinating entity for a two-year period to assist with costs
17 associated with the planning, development, establishment, or
18 expansion, as applicable, of partnerships under the program using
19 ~~[a portion of state funds allocated under Section 48.118 as well as]~~
20 money appropriated for that purpose, federal funds, and any other
21 funds available. The commissioner may award a grant only to a
22 coordinating entity that has entered into a performance agreement
23 approved under Subsection (i) or, if in the planning stage, has
24 entered into a memorandum of understanding to enter into a
25 performance agreement, unless the source of funds does not permit a
26 grant to the coordinating entity, in which case the grant shall be
27 made to a participating school district acting as fiscal agent.

1 Eligible use of grant funds shall include planning, development,
2 establishment, or expansion of partnerships under the program. The
3 commissioner may use not more than 15 percent of the money allocated
4 for the grants to cover the cost of administering grants awarded
5 under the program and to provide technical assistance and support
6 to partnerships under the program. The total amount of grants
7 awarded under this subsection for a school year may not exceed \$5
8 million.

9 SECTION 9. Section 33.007, Education Code, is amended by
10 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (d) to read as
11 follows:

12 (b) During the first school year a student is enrolled in a
13 high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment
14 charter school, and again during each year of a student's
15 enrollment in high school or at the high school level, a school
16 counselor shall provide information about postsecondary education
17 to the student and the student's parent or guardian. The
18 information must include information regarding:

19 (1) the importance of postsecondary education,
20 including:

21 (A) career readiness and workforce training
22 opportunities; and

23 (B) a link to the My Texas Future Internet
24 website and information regarding how to create a profile on that
25 website;

26 (2) the advantages of earning an endorsement and a
27 performance acknowledgment and completing the distinguished level

1 of achievement under the foundation high school program under
2 Section 28.025;

3 (3) the disadvantages of taking courses to prepare for
4 a high school equivalency examination relative to the benefits of
5 taking courses leading to a high school diploma;

6 (4) financial aid eligibility;

7 (5) instruction on how to apply for federal financial
8 aid;

9 (6) the center for financial aid information
10 established under Section 61.0776;

11 (7) the automatic admission of certain students to
12 general academic teaching institutions as provided by Section
13 51.803;

14 (8) the eligibility and academic performance
15 requirements for the TEXAS Grant as provided by Subchapter M,
16 Chapter 56;

17 (9) the availability of programs in the district under
18 which a student may earn college credit, including advanced
19 placement programs, dual credit programs, joint high school and
20 college credit programs, and international baccalaureate programs;

21 (10) the availability of education and training
22 vouchers and tuition and fee waivers to attend an institution of
23 higher education as provided by Section 54.366 for a student who is
24 or was previously in the conservatorship of the Department of
25 Family and Protective Services; ~~and~~

26 (11) the availability of college credit awarded by
27 institutions of higher education to veterans and military

servicemembers for military experience, education, and training obtained during military service as described by the informational materials developed under Section 302.0031(h), Labor Code;

(12) opportunities to complete career training and obtain a postsecondary credential while enrolled in high school, whether at the student's campus, another campus in the school district or open-enrollment charter school, or an educational institution that partners with the district or school, including:

(A) information regarding program costs, program completion rates, and the average wages of students who complete the program; and

(B) the availability of information regarding those opportunities on the My Texas Future Internet website; and

(13) the outcomes of graduates from the campus and school district or open-enrollment charter school in which the student is enrolled, including completion rates and average wages based on postsecondary pathways available to those graduates at the campus, district, or school using data posted under Section 7.0405(a) or available on the My Texas Future Internet website.

(d) The agency shall make available to school counselors an annual online training regarding statewide trends identified in the data posted under Section 7.0405(a) or available on the My Texas Future Internet website. The training must include information to assist school counselors in identifying the postsecondary outcomes for students at the counselor's campus and school district or open-enrollment charter school for purposes of performing the counselor's duties under this section. The agency may make the

training or other resources provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board available through the Texas OnCourse Internet website.

SECTION 10. The heading to Section 39.0261, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 39.0261. COLLEGE PREPARATION AND CAREER READINESS ASSESSMENTS.

SECTION 11. Section 39.0261(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the assessment instruments otherwise authorized or required by this subchapter:

(1) each school year and at state cost, a school district may administer to students in the spring of the eighth grade an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument for the purpose of diagnosing the academic strengths and deficiencies of students before entrance into high school;

(2) each school year and at state cost, a school district may administer to students in the 10th grade an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument for the purpose of measuring a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace; and

(3) high school students in the spring of the 11th grade or during the 12th grade may select and take once, at state cost:

(A) one of the valid, reliable, and nationally

1 norm-referenced assessment instruments used by colleges and
2 universities as part of their undergraduate admissions processes;
3 [~~or~~]

4 (B) the assessment instrument designated by the
5 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under Section [51.334](#); or

6 (C) a nationally recognized career readiness
7 assessment instrument that measures foundational workforce skills
8 approved by commissioner rule.

9 SECTION 12. Section [45.105](#)(c), Education Code, is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 (c) Local school funds from district taxes, tuition fees of
12 students not entitled to a free education, other local sources, and
13 state funds not designated for a specific purpose may be used for
14 the purposes listed for state and county available funds and for
15 purchasing appliances and supplies, paying insurance premiums,
16 paying janitors and other employees, buying school sites, buying,
17 building, repairing, and renting school buildings, including
18 acquiring school buildings and sites by leasing through annual
19 payments with an ultimate option to purchase, providing advising
20 support as described by Section 48.0035(1), and educating students
21 as described by Section 48.0035(2), and, except as provided by
22 Subsection (c-1), for other purposes necessary in the conduct of
23 the public schools determined by the board of trustees. The
24 accounts and vouchers for county districts must be approved by the
25 county superintendent. If the state available school fund in any
26 municipality or district is sufficient to maintain the schools in
27 any year for at least eight months and leave a surplus, the surplus

may be spent for the purposes listed in this subsection.

SECTION 13. Section 48.003(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

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

(1) is 5 years of age or older and under 21 years of age and:

(A) has not graduated from high school; or

(B) has graduated from high school but is:

(i) enrolled in a school district at a campus designated as a P-TECH school under Section 29.556 or in a school district participating in a partnership under Section 29.912; and

(ii) completing a course of study offered through an articulation agreement or memorandum of understanding with an institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, and the district described by Subparagraph (i), as applicable, under the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, and the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program under Section 29.912, regardless of whether the student is enrolled in the district providing the course of study;

(2) [~~7- or~~] is at least 21 years of age and under 26 years of age and has been admitted by a school district to complete the requirements for a high school diploma; or

(3) [~~4-2~~] is at least 18 years of age and under 50 years of age and is enrolled in an adult education program provided

under the adult high school charter school program under Subchapter G, Chapter 12.

SECTION 14. Subchapter A, Chapter 48, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 48.0035 to read as follows:

Sec. 48.0035. USE OF FUNDING FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES. A school district may use funding to which the district is entitled under this chapter to:

(1) provide district graduates, during the first two years after high school graduation, advising support toward the successful completion of a certificate or degree program at a public institution of higher education or a postsecondary vocational training program; and

(2) educate a student who has graduated from high school but is enrolled in the district in a program through which the student may earn dual credit, including the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, and the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program under Section 29.912.

SECTION 15. Section 48.106(a-1), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) In addition to the amounts under Subsection (a), ~~[for each student in average daily attendance,~~] a district is entitled to \$150 ~~[\$50]~~ for each ~~[of the following in which the]~~ student in average daily attendance who ~~[is enrolled]~~:

(1) is enrolled in a campus designated as a P-TECH school under Section 29.556; or

(2) completes a course of study offered under the

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, or the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program under Section 29.912, regardless of whether the student is enrolled in the district that provides the course of study ~~[a campus that is a member of the New Tech Network and that focuses on project-based learning and work-based education]~~.

SECTION 16. Sections 48.106(b)(1) and (1-a), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(1) "Approved career and technology education program":

(A) means:

(i) a sequence of career and technology education courses, including technology applications courses, authorized by the State Board of Education; and

(ii) courses offered under a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program established under 10 U.S.C. Section 2031; and

(B) includes only courses that qualify for high school credit.

(1-a) "Approved program of study" means a course sequence that:

(A) provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the students' chosen careers, including the military; and

(B) is approved by the agency for purposes of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century

1 Act (Pub. L. No. 115-224).

2 SECTION 17. Section 48.118, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsection (a-3) and amending Subsection (f) to read as
4 follows:

5 (a-3) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a school district
6 described by Section 29.912(c-1) may receive funding under this
7 section for up to 110 percent of the number of students who
8 qualified under Subsection (a) for the school year immediately
9 preceding the school year in which the district's enrollment first
10 reached 1,600 or more.

11 (f) The total amount of state funding for allotments and
12 outcomes bonuses under this section may not exceed \$20 [~~\$5~~] million
13 per year. If the total amount of allotments and outcomes bonuses to
14 which school districts are entitled under this section exceeds the
15 amount permitted under this subsection, the agency shall allocate
16 state funding to districts under this section in the following
17 order:

18 (1) ~~[allotments under Subsection (a) for which school~~
19 ~~districts participating in partnerships prioritized under Section~~
20 ~~29.912(h) are eligible,~~

21 [~~(2)~~] allotments under Subsection (a) for which school
22 districts that entered into a memorandum of understanding or letter
23 of commitment regarding a multidistrict pathway partnership, as
24 defined by commissioner rule, before May 1, 2023, are eligible;

25 (2) [~~(3)~~] allotments under Subsection (a) for which
26 school districts that have entered into a performance agreement
27 under Section 29.912 with a coordinating entity that is an

1 institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, are
2 eligible;

3 (3) [~~(4)~~] allotments under Subsection (a) for which
4 school districts with the highest percentage of students who are
5 educationally disadvantaged, in descending order, are eligible;
6 and

7 (4) [~~(5)~~] outcomes bonuses under Subsection (c) for
8 which school districts with the highest percentage of students who
9 are educationally disadvantaged, in descending order, are
10 eligible.

11 SECTION 18. Section 48.152(a)(2), Education Code, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (2) "New instructional facility" includes:

14 (A) a newly constructed instructional facility;

15 (B) a repurposed instructional facility; ~~and~~

16 (C) a leased facility operating for the first
17 time as an instructional facility with a minimum lease term of not
18 less than 10 years; and

19 (D) a renovated portion of an instructional
20 facility to be used for the first time to provide high-cost and
21 undersubscribed career and technology education programs, as
22 determined by the commissioner.

23 SECTION 19. Section 48.152(f), Education Code, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 (f) The amount appropriated for allotments under this
26 section may not exceed \$150 [~~\$100~~] million in a school year. If the
27 total amount of allotments to which districts are entitled under

1 this section for a school year exceeds the amount appropriated
2 under this subsection, the commissioner:

3 (1) shall reduce each district's allotment under this
4 section in the manner provided by Section 48.266(f); and

5 (2) for new instructional facilities described by
6 Subsection (a)(2)(D), may remove a career and technology education
7 program from the list of programs that qualify under that
8 subsection.

9 SECTION 20. The heading to Section 48.155, Education Code,
10 is amended to read as follows:

11 Sec. 48.155. COLLEGE PREPARATION AND CAREER READINESS
12 ASSESSMENT REIMBURSEMENT.

13 SECTION 21. Section 48.156, Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 48.156. CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION REIMBURSEMENT. (a)
16 A school district is entitled to reimbursement for the amount of a
17 subsidy paid by the district for not more than two ~~[a student's]~~
18 certification examinations per student ~~[examination]~~ under Section
19 29.190(a), including costs paid for associated fingerprinting or
20 criminal history record information review, as provided by Section
21 29.190(c).

22 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the total amount that
23 may be used for reimbursement under that subsection for a school
24 year may not exceed \$20 million, of which not more than \$500,000 may
25 be used to reimburse the costs of fingerprinting or criminal
26 history record information review. If the total amount to which
27 school districts are entitled under Subsection (a) exceeds the

1 amount permitted under this subsection, the commissioner shall
2 proportionately reduce each school district's entitlement under
3 this section.

4 SECTION 22. (a) This section takes effect only if S.B.
5 1786, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, becomes law.

6 (b) Section 204.0025, Labor Code, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 Sec. 204.0025. ADDITIONAL WORKFORCE DATA REPORTING. The
9 commission shall ~~[It is the intent of the legislature that the~~
10 ~~commission, subject to the availability of federal funding or other~~
11 ~~resources for the purpose,]~~ work with employers to enhance the
12 reporting of employment and earnings data by employers to the
13 commission as part of an employer's routine wage filings under this
14 subtitle or commission rule and consistent with federal law and
15 regulations. The enhanced wage filings must include information
16 related to wage, industry, occupational field, full-time and
17 part-time status, county of primary employment, remote work status,
18 [occupation] and other important employment information necessary
19 to conduct the assessment required under Section 302.0205 ~~[that~~
20 ~~would improve the state's labor market information].~~

21 SECTION 23. (a) This section takes effect only if S.B.
22 1786, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, does not become law.

23 (b) Section 204.0025, Labor Code, is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 Sec. 204.0025. ADDITIONAL WORKFORCE DATA REPORTING. The
26 commission shall ~~[It is the intent of the legislature that the~~
27 ~~commission, subject to the availability of federal funding or other~~

~~resources for the purpose,~~ work with employers to enhance the reporting of employment and earnings data by employers to the commission as part of an employer's routine wage filings under this subtitle or commission rule and consistent with federal law and regulations. The enhanced wage filings must include information related to wage, industry, occupational field, full-time and part-time status, county of primary employment, remote work status, ~~[occupation]~~ and other important employment information that would improve the state's labor market information.

SECTION 24. The heading to Section 312.003, Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 312.003. INVENTORY OF CERTIFICATIONS ~~[CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATES]~~.

SECTION 25. Sections 312.003(a), (b), (c), and (d), Labor Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The advisory council shall develop an inventory of industry-recognized certifications ~~[credentials and certificates]~~ that may be earned by a public high school student through a career and technology education program and that:

(1) are aligned to state and regional workforce needs; and

(2) serve as an entry point to middle- and high-wage jobs.

(b) The inventory must include for each certification ~~[credential or certificate]~~:

(1) the associated career cluster;

(2) the awarding entity;

1 (3) the level of education required and any additional
2 requirements for the certification [~~credential or certificate~~];

3 (4) any fees for obtaining the certification
4 [~~credential or certificate~~]; and

5 (5) the average wage or salary for jobs that require or
6 prefer the certification [~~credential or certificate~~].

7 (c) In developing the inventory, the advisory council may
8 consult with local workforce boards, the Texas Workforce Investment
9 Council, the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office, the
10 Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
11 Board.

12 (d) The advisory council shall establish a process for
13 developing the inventory, including the criteria for the inclusion
14 of a certification [~~credential or certificate~~] in the inventory.

15 SECTION 26. Section 29.912(h), Education Code, is repealed.

16 SECTION 27. The Texas Education Agency shall first update
17 the statewide goal for career readiness created under Section
18 7.043(a), Education Code, as added by this Act, in accordance with
19 Subsection (b) of that section not later than the 2028-2029 school
20 year.

21 SECTION 28. Section 28.0095(c-1), Education Code, as added
22 by this Act, and Sections 29.190, 29.912, 33.007(b), and
23 39.0261(a), Education Code, as amended by this Act, apply beginning
24 with the 2025-2026 school year.

25 SECTION 29. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
26 over another Act of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025.

27 SECTION 30. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of

1 this section and as otherwise provided by this Act, this Act takes
2 effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the
3 members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article
4 III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote
5 necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1,
6 2025.

7 (b) The amendments by this Act to Chapter 48, Education
8 Code, take effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 120 was passed by the House on April 16, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 120 on May 28, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 116, Nays 6, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 120 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor