

By: Bowers

H.B. No. 4893

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Breakthrough Program.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. BREAKTHROUGH PROGRAM

Sections 33.261, 33.262, 33.263, 33.264, 33.265 and 33.266 Education Code, are added to read as follows:

Sec. 33.261 DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(a) "Breakthrough" means a Postsecondary Advising Program that supports students who are the first in their families to pursue and attain a postsecondary certificate or diploma, or students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

Sec. 33.262. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER. (a) The commissioner shall:

(1) coordinate the efforts of the Breakthrough program with other social service organizations and agencies and with public school personnel to provide services to students who are at risk of not completing critical steps to complete high school and pursue college and career options after graduation;

(2) support the Breakthrough program to establish performance goals, objectives, and measures for the program, including performance goals, objectives, and measures that consider improvement in student:

- 1 (A) academic achievement;
2 (B) promotion, graduation, and retention; and
3 (C) matriculation into postsecondary education
4 (3) obtain information to determine accomplishment of
5 performance goals, objectives, and measures;
6 (4) help communities that want to participate in the
7 program establish a local funding base;
8 (5) provide training and technical assistance for
9 participating communities and programs;
10 (6) and adopt policies concerning:
11 (A) the responsibility of the agency in
12 Encouraging local businesses to participate in local Breakthrough
13 programs;
14 (B) the responsibility of the agency in Obtaining
15 information from participating programs; and
16 (C) any other areas concerning the program.
17 Identified by the commissioner.

18 (b) The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement the
19 policies described by Subsection (a)(7) and shall annually update
20 the rules.

21 Sec. 33.263. COOPERATION WITH BREAKTHROUGH. (a) The
22 agency and Breakthrough shall work together to maximize the
23 effectiveness of the Breakthrough program.

24 Sec. 33.264. FUNDING. (a) The agency shall support local
25 Breakthrough programs to develop and implement.

26 (b) Each local Breakthrough program shall develop a funding
27 plan which ensures that the level of services is maintained if state

1 funding is reduced.

2 (c) A local Breakthrough program may accept federal funds,
3 state funds, private contributions, grants, and public and school
4 district funds to support the program.

5 Sec. 33.265. AGENCY PERFORMANCE OF BREAKTHROUGH FUNCTIONS
6 REQUIRED. (a) The agency, through the Breakthrough State Office:

7 (1) must perform each function concerning the
8 Breakthrough program for which the agency is responsible; and

9 (2) may not contract with a private entity to perform a
10 function described by Subdivision (1).

11 SECTION 33.266. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.