

By: Hodge

H.B. No. 23

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a criminal justice component of the enrichment curriculum in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 28.002(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

(1) a foundation curriculum that includes:

(A) English language arts;

(B) mathematics;

(C) science; and

(D) social studies, consisting of Texas, United States, and world history, government, and geography; and

(2) an enrichment curriculum that includes:

(A) to the extent possible, languages other than English;

(B) health;

(C) physical education;

(D) fine arts;

(E) economics, with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits;

(F) career and technology education; ~~and~~

(G) technology applications; and

1                   (H) criminal justice and the law.

2           SECTION 2. (a) Section 28.002(a)(2)(H), Education Code, as  
3 added by this Act, applies beginning with the 2005-2006 school  
4 year.

5           (b) Not later than May 1, 2004, the State Board of Education  
6 shall adopt rules identifying the essential skills and knowledge  
7 for criminal justice as required by Section 28.002, Education Code,  
8 as amended by this Act.

9           (c) Not later than March 1, 2005, the State Board of  
10 Education shall:

11                   (1) notwithstanding Section 31.022(d), Education  
12 Code, adopt textbooks for criminal justice as required by Section  
13 31.022(a), Education Code; and

14                   (2) notwithstanding Section 31.024(b), Education  
15 Code, provide to each school district the lists of textbooks  
16 adopted for criminal justice.

17           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.