

By: Seaman

H.B. No. 242

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to career and technology education and training.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.251(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board shall adopt a policy to establish a district- and campus-level planning and decision-making process that will involve the professional staff of the district, parents, and community members in establishing and reviewing the district's and campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and major classroom instructional programs. The board shall establish a procedure under which meetings are held regularly by district- and campus-level planning and decision-making committees that include representative professional staff, parents of students enrolled in the district, business and industry representatives, and community members. The committees shall include a business and industry representative [~~representatives,~~] without regard to whether the [~~a business~~] representative resides in the district or whether the business or industry the person represents is located in the district. The board, or the board's designee, shall periodically meet with the district-level committee to review the district-level committee's deliberations.

SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.1821 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 29.1821. CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ADVISORY
2 BOARD. (a) The Career and Technology Education Advisory Board
3 consists of nine members appointed by the commissioner.

4 (b) The board must include:

5 (1) one representative from the agency;

6 (2) one representative from the Texas Workforce
7 Commission;

8 (3) two members who represent the business and
9 industry community;

10 (4) three members who represent educators,
11 administrators, or parents; and

12 (5) two members who represent institutions of higher
13 education.

14 (c) A member of the board serves at the pleasure of the
15 commissioner.

16 (d) A member of the board may not:

17 (1) receive compensation for service on the board; or

18 (2) be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred while
19 conducting the business of the board.

20 (e) The board shall:

21 (1) assist the agency in developing the state plan for
22 career and technology education required under Section 29.182; and

23 (2) on request, assist school districts in developing
24 career and technology programs under this subchapter.

25 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
26 amended by adding Section 29.187 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 29.187. AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN CAREER

1 AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION; PROGRAM. (a) In addition to the
2 authority granted under Section 29.183, the board of trustees of a
3 school district may develop and offer a program under which a
4 student may:

5 (1) receive specific education in a career and
6 technology profession that:

7 (A) leads to postsecondary education; or

8 (B) meets or exceeds business or industry
9 standards; and

10 (2) obtain from the district an award for
11 distinguished achievement in career and technology education and a
12 stamp or other notation on the student's transcript that indicates
13 receipt of the award.

14 (b) An award granted under this section is not in lieu of a
15 diploma or certificate of coursework completion issued under
16 Section 28.025.

17 (c) In developing a program under this section, the board of
18 trustees of a school district shall consider the state plan for
19 career and technology education required under Section 29.182.

20 (d) The board of trustees of a school district may contract
21 with an entity listed in Section 29.184(a) for assistance in
22 developing the program or providing instruction to district
23 students participating in the program.

24 (e) The board of trustees of a school district may also
25 contract with a local business or a local institution of higher
26 education for assistance in developing or operating a program under
27 this section. A program may provide education in areas of

1 technology unique to the local area.

2 (f) The board of trustees of a school district may provide
3 insurance to protect a business that contracts with the district
4 under Subsection (e) against liability for a bodily injury
5 sustained by or the death of a district student while working for
6 the business as part of a program established under this section.
7 The board shall notify the parent or guardian of each student
8 working for a business if the board provides insurance to the
9 business under this subsection. The amount of insurance the
10 district provides must be reasonable considering the financial
11 condition of the district. The insurance must be:

12 (1) obtained from a reliable insurer authorized to
13 engage in business in the state; and

14 (2) submitted on a form approved by the commissioner
15 of insurance.

16 (g) The board of trustees of a school district must submit a
17 proposed program under this section to the commissioner of
18 education in accordance with criteria established by the
19 commissioner.

20 SECTION 4. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
21 amended by adding Section 29.188 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 29.188. RECOGNITION OF SUCCESSFUL CAREER AND
23 TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PROGRAM. The governor is encouraged to
24 present a proclamation or certificate to each member of the
25 business and industry community that the Texas Workforce
26 Commission, in cooperation with the agency, determines has
27 successfully assisted in the provision of a career and technology

1 education program under this subchapter.

2 SECTION 5. Section 41.123, Education Code, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 Sec. 41.123. WADA COUNT. For purposes of Chapter 42,
5 students served under an agreement under this subchapter are
6 counted only in the weighted average daily attendance of the
7 district providing the services, except that students served under
8 an agreement authorized by Section 41.125 are counted in a manner
9 determined by the commissioner.

10 SECTION 6. Subchapter E, Chapter 41, Education Code, is
11 amended by adding Section 41.125 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 41.125. CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
13 PROGRAMS. (a) The board of trustees of a school district with a
14 wealth per student that exceeds the equalized wealth level may
15 reduce the district's wealth per student by executing an agreement
16 to provide students of one or more other districts with career and
17 technology education through a program designated as an area
18 program for career and technology education.

19 (b) The agreement is not effective unless the commissioner
20 certifies that:

21 (1) implementation of the agreement will not result in
22 any of the affected districts' wealth per student being greater
23 than the equalized wealth level; and

24 (2) the agreement requires the district with a wealth
25 per student that exceeds the equalized wealth level to make
26 expenditures benefiting students from other districts in an amount
27 at least equal to the amount that would be required for the district

1 to purchase the number of attendance credits under Subchapter D
2 necessary, in combination with any other actions taken under this
3 chapter other than an action under this section, to reduce the
4 district's wealth per student to a level that is equal to or less
5 than the equalized wealth level.

6 (c) The board of trustees of the school district shall
7 obtain voter approval of the agreement in the manner provided by
8 Section 41.122, except that the ballot shall be printed to permit
9 voting for or against the proposition: "Authorizing the board of
10 trustees of _____ School District to provide career and
11 technology education to students of other school districts with
12 local tax revenues."

13 SECTION 7. Section 61.077(b), Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (b) The purposes of this committee shall include the
16 following:

17 (1) to advise the two boards on the coordination of
18 postsecondary career and technology education and the articulation
19 between postsecondary career and technology education and
20 secondary career and technology education;

21 (2) to facilitate the transfer of responsibilities for
22 the administration of postsecondary career and technology
23 education from the State Board of Education to the board in
24 accordance with Section 111(a)(I) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational
25 Education Act, Public Law 98-524;

26 (3) to cooperate with ~~advise~~ the Career and
27 Technology Education Advisory Board, the commissioner of higher

1 education, and the State Board of Education, when it acts as the
2 State Board for Career and Technology Education, on the following:

3 (A) the transfer of federal funds to the board
4 for allotment to eligible public postsecondary institutions of
5 higher education;

6 (B) the career and technology education funding
7 for projects and institutions as determined by the board when the
8 State Board for Career and Technology Education is required by
9 federal law to endorse such determinations;

10 (C) the development and updating of the state
11 plan for career and technology education and the evaluation of
12 programs, services, and activities of postsecondary career and
13 technology education and such amendments to the state plan for
14 career and technology education as may relate to postsecondary
15 education;

16 (D) other matters related to postsecondary
17 career and technology education; and

18 (E) the coordination of curricula, instructional
19 programs, research, and other functions as appropriate, including
20 areas listed in Section 61.076 [~~of this code~~], school-to-work and
21 school-to-college transition programs, and professional
22 development activities; and

23 (4) to advise the Council on Workforce and Economic
24 Competitiveness on educational policy issues related to workforce
25 preparation.

26 SECTION 8. Subchapter D, Chapter 301, Labor Code, is
27 amended by adding Section 301.0611 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 301.0611. COORDINATION OF CERTAIN AWARDS AND
2 INCENTIVES. The commission, in cooperation with the Texas Education
3 Agency, the comptroller, and the Texas Higher Education
4 Coordinating Board, shall prepare and make available to the public
5 a list of all awards and incentives available for business
6 participation in:

7 (1) a school district's career and technology
8 education program under Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code;
9 or

10 (2) any other career and technology education
11 training.

12 SECTION 9. It is the intent of the legislature that public
13 schools provide career and technology education by teaching
14 fundamental academic skills and providing practical, hands-on
15 learning experiences. Career and technology education should not
16 include mandatory career-tracking for students or result in
17 professional certification instead of receipt of a high school
18 diploma. The purpose of career and technology education is to
19 prepare students for postsecondary educational opportunities and
20 high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities.

21 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, except
22 that Sections 1 and 3 take effect immediately and apply beginning
23 with the 2003-2004 school year if this Act receives a vote of
24 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by
25 Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not
26 receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, Sections 1 and 3
27 take effect September 1, 2003.