

By: Solis

H.B. No. 2421

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to eligibility to participate in a high school equivalency  
3 program operated by a school district or open-enrollment charter  
4 school.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 29.087(d), Education Code, as added by  
7 Chapter 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (d) A student is eligible to participate in a program  
10 authorized by this section if:

11 (1) the student has been ordered by a court under  
12 Article 45.054, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by Chapter  
13 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, to:

14 (A) participate in a preparatory class for the  
15 high school equivalency examination; or

16 (B) take the high school equivalency examination  
17 administered under Section 7.111; or

18 (2) the following conditions are satisfied:

19 (A) the student is at least 16 years of age at the  
20 beginning of the school year or semester;

21 (B) the student is a student at risk of dropping  
22 out of school, as defined by Section 29.081;

23 (C) the student and the student's parent or  
24 guardian agree in writing to the student's participation;

1                   (D) at least two school years have elapsed since  
2 the student first enrolled in ninth grade [~~and the student has~~  
3 ~~accumulated less than one quarter of the credits required to~~  
4 ~~graduate under the minimum graduation requirements of the district~~  
5 ~~or school~~]; and

6                   (E) any other conditions specified by the  
7 commissioner.

8           SECTION 2. Sections 29.087(m) and (o), Education Code, as  
9 added by Chapter 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular  
10 Session, 2001, are repealed.

11           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.