

By: Barrientos

S.B. No. 632

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a statewide survey to obtain public school dropout data.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.088 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.088. SURVEY REGARDING DROPOUTS. (a) Not later than December 1, 2004, the Office of Survey Research of the College of Communication of The University of Texas shall complete a statewide scientific survey on information related to students who leave public schools in this state without obtaining a high school diploma.

(b) The survey must include polling of the following persons:

(1) parents and guardians of middle school students, junior high school students, and high school students; and

(2) individuals who are:
(A) at least 18 years of age but younger than 24 years of age; and

(B) not enrolled in a public school.

(c) The survey must be designed to obtain information related to:

(1) high school dropout rates;

(2) high school completion rates;

1 (3) causes of increased dropout rates;

2 (4) rates of student participation in and completion
3 of a high school equivalency program;

4 (5) employment status of students who do not hold a
5 high school diploma;

6 (6) recommendations, including recommendations from
7 public school students, for restructuring the delivery of public
8 school education services to increase high school completion rates;
9 and

10 (7) other information determined to be relevant by the
11 Office of Survey Research.

12 (d) The Office of Survey Research shall make available to
13 the public a written report of the survey results.

14 (e) This section expires December 1, 2004.

15 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.