

By: Shapiro

S.B. No. 1108

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 1108:

By: Grusendorf

C.S.S.B. No. 1108

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to academic achievement in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.005 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.005. HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS. The commissioner may by rule establish a statewide standard to be used to certify each school district that is preparing, training, and recruiting high-quality teachers in a manner consistent with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Pub. L. No. 107-110).

SECTION 2. Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.908 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.908. PROGRAMS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT. (a) The commissioner, in coordination with appropriate representatives of institutions of higher education and school districts, shall develop:

(1) a diagnostic and assistance program for each subject assessed by an assessment instrument under Section 39.023(c); and

(2) other academic programs of mutual benefit to school districts and institutions of higher education.

(b) The commissioner shall seek private funding to make available and maintain on the Internet each diagnostic and assistance program developed under Subsection (a)(1).

SECTION 3. Section 39.131(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If a campus performance is below any standard under Section 39.073(b), the campus is considered a low-performing campus. The [and the] commissioner may permit the campus to participate in an innovative redesign of the campus to improve campus performance or may take any of the other following actions, listed in order of severity, to the extent the commissioner determines necessary:

(1) issue public notice of the deficiency to the board of trustees;

(2) order a hearing conducted by the board of trustees at the campus for the purpose of notifying the public of the unacceptable performance, the improvements in performance expected by the agency, and the sanctions that may be imposed under this section if the performance does not improve within a designated period of time and of soliciting public comment on the initial steps being taken to improve performance;

(3) order the preparation of a report regarding the parental involvement program at the campus and a plan describing strategies for improving parental involvement at the campus;

(4) order the preparation of a report regarding the effectiveness of the district- and campus-level planning and decision-making committees established under Subchapter F, Chapter 11, and a plan describing strategies for improving the effectiveness of those committees;

(5) order the preparation of a student achievement

1 improvement plan that addresses each academic excellence indicator
2 for which the campus's performance is unacceptable, the submission
3 of the plan to the commissioner for approval, and implementation of
4 the plan;

5 (6) order a hearing to be held before the commissioner
6 or the commissioner's designee at which the president of the board
7 of trustees, the superintendent, and the campus principal shall
8 appear and explain the campus's low performance, lack of
9 improvement, and plans for improvement;

10 (7) appoint a special campus intervention team to:

11 (A) conduct a comprehensive on-site evaluation
12 of each low-performing campus to determine the cause for the
13 campus's low performance and lack of progress;

14 (B) recommend actions, including reallocation of
15 resources and technical assistance, changes in school procedures or
16 operations, staff development for instructional and administrative
17 staff, intervention for individual administrators or teachers,
18 waivers from state statute or rule, or other actions the team
19 considers appropriate;

20 (C) assist in the development of a campus plan
21 for student achievement; and

22 (D) assist the commissioner in monitoring the
23 progress of the campus in implementing the campus plan for
24 improvement of student achievement;

25 (8) if a campus has been a low-performing campus for a
26 period of one year or more, appoint a board of managers composed of
27 residents of the district to exercise the powers and duties of the

1 board of trustees of the district in relation to the campus; or

2 (9) if a campus has been a low-performing campus for a
3 period of two years or more, order closure of the school program on
4 the campus.

5 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2003-2004
6 school year, except that the commissioner of education shall make
7 available not later than the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year
8 the programs developed under Section 29.908(a)(1), Education Code,
9 as added by this Act.

10 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.