

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 1470
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2003; March 20, 2003, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 24, 2003,
1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;
1-5 April 24, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to eligibility to participate in a high school equivalency
1-9 program operated by a school district or open-enrollment charter
1-10 school.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subsection (d), Section 29.087, Education Code,
1-13 as added by Chapter 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular
1-14 Session, 2001, is amended to read as follows:

1-15 (d) A student is eligible to participate in a program
1-16 authorized by this section if:

1-17 (1) the student has been ordered by a court under
1-18 Article 45.054, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by Chapter
1-19 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, to:

1-20 (A) participate in a preparatory class for the
1-21 high school equivalency examination; or

1-22 (B) take the high school equivalency examination
1-23 administered under Section 7.111; or

1-24 (2) the following conditions are satisfied:

1-25 (A) the student is at least 16 years of age at the
1-26 beginning of the school year or semester;

1-27 (B) the student is a student at risk of dropping
1-28 out of school, as defined by Section 29.081;

1-29 (C) the student and the student's parent or
1-30 guardian agree in writing to the student's participation;

1-31 (D) at least two school years have elapsed since
1-32 the student first enrolled in ninth grade and the student has
1-33 accumulated less than one half ~~[quarter]~~ of the credits required to
1-34 graduate under the minimum graduation requirements of the district
1-35 or school; and

1-36 (E) any other conditions specified by the
1-37 commissioner.

1-38 SECTION 2. Subsection (o), Section 29.087, Education Code,
1-39 as added by Chapter 1514, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular
1-40 Session, 2001, is repealed.

1-41 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-42 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-43 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-44 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-45 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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