

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1750

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a task force to study adult education programs.

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

SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON ADULT EDUCATION REFORM.

(a) Not later than December 1, 2003, the Task Force on Adult Education Reform shall be established to study and make recommendations on improving adult education programs in the state through the creation of a coordinated plan.

(b) The task force consists of 17 members as follows:

- (1) the commissioner of the Texas Education Agency, or the commissioner's designee;
- (2) the chair of the commission of the Texas Workforce Commission, or the chair's designee;
- (3) the commissioner of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, or the commissioner's designee;
- (4) one member representing the Texas Department of Human Services;
- (5) one member representing the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
- (6) one member representing the Texas Rehabilitation Commission;
- (7) one member representing the Texas Commission for the Blind;

1 (8) one member representing the Texas Department of
2 Economic Development;

3 (9) one member representing the Texas Council on
4 Workforce and Economic Competitiveness;

5 (10) two members representing public adult education
6 providers appointed by the governor;

7 (11) two members representing community-based adult
8 education providers appointed by the governor;

9 (12) two members representing employers appointed by
10 the governor; and

11 (13) two members representing local workforce
12 development board appointed by the governor.

13 (c) The governor shall designate a member of the task force
14 to serve as the presiding officer.

15 (d) The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding
16 officer.

17 (e) The Texas Education Agency shall provide the staff
18 necessary to assist the task force in performing its duties.

19 (f) The task force shall study and evaluate adult education
20 programs in the state. The task force shall:

21 (1) determine the need and demand for adult education
22 programs in the state, including the need and demand for the
23 programs by special populations;

24 (2) determine the existing capacity to provide the
25 adult education programs demanded;

26 (3) assess the retention and progress rate of students
27 enrolled in adult education programs;

1 (4) evaluate the performance measures utilized to
2 assess student performance and the effectiveness of adult education
3 programs in the state;

4 (5) examine the current structure for delivering adult
5 education programs in the state, with a focus on its integration
6 with workplace skills training;

7 (6) identify best practices for providing the most
8 effective and efficient delivery of adult education programs,
9 including the examination of practices used in other states;

10 (7) evaluate the curricula utilized in adult education
11 programs in the state;

12 (8) evaluate the professional development services
13 provided to adult education instructors in the state;

14 (9) evaluate the use of technology and distance
15 learning initiatives in adult education programs in the state; and

16 (10) evaluate the role of adult education in workforce
17 development and economic development in the state.

18 (g) Not later than December 1, 2004, the task force shall
19 report to the legislature on its findings under Subsection (f) of
20 this section and make recommendations to the legislature in a
21 coordinated plan regarding the following:

22 (1) strategies for improving student access,
23 participation, and retention in adult education programs in the
24 state;

25 (2) strategies for improving the state's capacity to
26 provide adult education programs;

27 (3) strategies for improving the integration of adult

1 education with workplace skills training in the state;

2 (4) strategies for building partnerships that create
3 pathways of advancement from adult education to postsecondary
4 education and advanced skills training;

5 (5) strategies for improving the curricula utilized in
6 adult education programs in the state;

7 (6) strategies for improving the professional
8 development services provided to adult education instructors in the
9 state;

10 (7) strategies for improving the use of technology and
11 distance learning initiatives in adult education programs in the
12 state; and

13 (8) the funding necessary to implement these
14 recommendations.

15 (h) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
16 task force.

17 (i) This Act expires and the task force is abolished January
18 1, 2005.

19 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
20 1, 2003.