

By: Chavez

H.B. No. 893

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to access to funds appropriated for statewide adult
3 education programs.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 29.251(1), Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) "Adult education" means services and instruction
8 provided below the college level for adults by public local
9 education agencies, public nonprofit agencies, ~~[or]~~
10 community-based organizations, or other entities specified by
11 Section 29.253.

12 SECTION 2. Section 29.255, Education Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 Sec. 29.255. FUNDING. (a) Funds shall be appropriated to
15 implement statewide adult basic education, adult bilingual
16 education, high school equivalency, and high school credit programs
17 to eliminate illiteracy in this state and to implement and support a
18 statewide program to meet the total range of adult needs for adult
19 education, related skill training, and pilot programs to
20 demonstrate the effectiveness of the community education concept.
21 The agency shall ensure that public local education agencies,
22 junior college districts, public nonprofit agencies, and
23 community-based organizations have direct and equitable access to
24 those funds. An additional sum of money may be appropriated to the

1 Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office [~~Department of~~
2 ~~Commerce~~] for the purpose of skill training in direct support of
3 industrial expansion and start-up, and those locations,
4 industries, and occupations designated by the Texas Economic
5 Development and Tourism Office [~~Department of Commerce~~], when such
6 training is also in support of the basic purposes of this
7 subchapter. To fulfill the basic purposes of this subchapter, an
8 additional sum of money may be appropriated for skill training that
9 is conducted to support the expansion of civilian employment
10 opportunities on United States military reservations.

11 (b) The agency, in conjunction with the Texas Economic
12 Development and Tourism Office [~~Department of Commerce~~], may adopt
13 rules to administer skill training programs for which the agency is
14 responsible, and the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office
15 [~~Department of Commerce~~] may adopt rules to administer skill
16 training programs for which it is responsible.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.