

By: Anderson

H.B. No. 2067

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to required curriculum in the public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 28.002(a), (c), (e), (k), and (n), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

(1) a ~~[foundation]~~ curriculum for kindergarten through grade 3 that includes:

(A) English language arts and reading;

(B) mathematics;

(C) ~~[science, and~~

~~[(D) social studies, consisting of Texas,] United States~~[+] and world history; and

(D) [+, government, and] geography; ~~[and]~~

(2) a curriculum for grades 4 through 6 ~~[an enrichment curriculum]~~ that includes:

(A) the subjects listed in Subdivision (1);

(B) science;

(C) to the extent possible, languages other than English;

(D) [+(B)] health and[+

[(C)] physical education;

(E) [+(D)] fine arts; and

1 (F) Texas history; and
2 (3) a curriculum for grades 7 through 12 that
3 includes:

4 (A) the subjects listed in Subdivisions (1) and
5 (2);

6 (B) [~~(E)~~] economics, with emphasis on the free
7 enterprise system and its benefits;

8 (C) government;

9 (D) [~~(F)~~] career and technology education; and

10 (E) [~~(G)~~] technology applications.

11 (c) The State Board of Education, with the direct
12 participation of educators, parents, business and industry
13 representatives, and employers shall by rule identify the essential
14 knowledge and skills of each subject of the required curriculum
15 that all students should be able to demonstrate and that will be
16 used in evaluating textbooks under Chapter 31 and addressed on the
17 assessment instruments required under Subchapter B, Chapter 39.
18 The essential knowledge and skills for each subject must be clearly
19 expressed, grade specific, and provide for instruction with
20 increased depth and complexity from one grade level to the next. As
21 a condition of accreditation, the board shall require each district
22 to provide instruction in the essential knowledge and skills at
23 appropriate grade levels.

24 (e) American Sign Language is a language for purposes of
25 Subsection (a)(2)(C) [~~(a)(2)(A)~~]. A public school may offer an
26 elective course in the language.

27 (k) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the

1 Texas Department of Health and the Texas Diabetes Council, shall
2 develop a diabetes education program that a school district may use
3 in the health and physical education curriculum under Subsection
4 (a)(2)(D) [~~(a)(2)(B)~~].

5 (n) The State Board of Education may by rule develop and
6 implement a plan designed to incorporate [~~foundation~~] curriculum
7 requirements for other subjects into the career and technology
8 education curriculum under Subsection (a)(3)(D) [~~(a)(2)(F)~~].

9 SECTION 2. Section 28.003(b), Education Code, is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (b) In this section, "educational program" means a course or
12 series of courses in the required curriculum under Section 28.002,
13 other than a fine arts course under Section 28.002(a)(2)(E)
14 [~~28.002(a)(2)(D)~~] or a career and technology course under Section
15 28.002(a)(3)(D) [~~28.002(a)(2)(F)~~].

16 SECTION 3. Section 28.022(a), Education Code, is amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (a) The board of trustees of each school district shall
19 adopt a policy that:

20 (1) provides for a conference between parents and
21 teachers;

22 (2) requires the district, at least once every 12
23 weeks, to give written notice to a parent of a student's performance
24 in each class or subject; and

25 (3) requires the district, at least once every three
26 weeks, or during the fourth week of each nine-week grading period,
27 to give written notice to a parent or legal guardian of a student's

1 performance in a subject included in the required [~~foundation~~]
2 curriculum under Section 28.002(a) [~~28.002(a)(1)~~] if the student's
3 performance in the subject is consistently unsatisfactory, as
4 determined by the district.

5 SECTION 4. Section 29.081(d), Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (d) For purposes of this section, "student at risk of
8 dropping out of school" includes each student who is under 21 years
9 of age and who:

10 (1) was not advanced from one grade level to the next
11 for one or more school years;

12 (2) if the student is in grade 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12,
13 did not maintain an average equivalent to 70 on a scale of 100 in two
14 or more subjects in the required [~~foundation~~] curriculum during a
15 semester in the preceding or current school year or is not
16 maintaining such an average in two or more subjects in the required
17 [~~foundation~~] curriculum in the current semester;

18 (3) did not perform satisfactorily on an assessment
19 instrument administered to the student under Subchapter B, Chapter
20 39, and who has not in the previous or current school year
21 subsequently performed on that instrument or another appropriate
22 instrument at a level equal to at least 110 percent of the level of
23 satisfactory performance on that instrument;

24 (4) if the student is in prekindergarten,
25 kindergarten, or grade 1, 2, or 3, did not perform satisfactorily on
26 a readiness test or assessment instrument administered during the
27 current school year;

1 (5) is pregnant or is a parent;

2 (6) has been placed in a disciplinary ~~[an]~~ alternative
3 education program in accordance with Section 37.006 during the
4 preceding or current school year;

5 (7) has been expelled in accordance with Section
6 37.007 during the preceding or current school year;

7 (8) is currently on parole, probation, deferred
8 prosecution, or other conditional release;

9 (9) was previously reported through the Public
10 Education Information Management System (PEIMS) to have dropped out
11 of school;

12 (10) is a student of limited English proficiency, as
13 defined by Section 29.052;

14 (11) is in the custody or care of the Department of
15 Family and Protective ~~[and Regulatory]~~ Services or has, during the
16 current school year, been referred to the department by a school
17 official, officer of the juvenile court, or law enforcement
18 official;

19 (12) is homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section
20 11302~~[, and its subsequent amendments]~~; or

21 (13) resided in the preceding school year or resides
22 in the current school year in a residential placement facility in
23 the district, including a detention facility, substance abuse
24 treatment facility, emergency shelter, psychiatric hospital,
25 halfway house, or foster group home.

26 SECTION 5. Section 31.022(b), Education Code, is amended to
27 read as follows:

1 (b) The board shall organize the cycle required by
2 Subsection (a) [~~for subjects in the foundation curriculum~~] so that
3 not more than one-sixth of the textbooks for subjects in the
4 required [~~foundation~~] curriculum are reviewed each year. The board
5 shall adopt rules to provide for a full and complete investigation
6 of textbooks for each subject in the required [~~foundation~~]
7 curriculum at least every six years. The adoption of textbooks for
8 a subject in the required [~~foundation~~] curriculum may be extended
9 beyond the six-year period only if the content of textbooks for a
10 subject is sufficiently current.

11 SECTION 6. Section 31.101(a), Education Code, is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (a) Each year, during a period established by the State
14 Board of Education, the board of trustees of each school district
15 and the governing body of each open-enrollment charter school
16 shall[+]

17 ~~[(1) for a subject in the foundation curriculum,]~~
18 notify the State Board of Education of the textbooks selected by the
19 board of trustees or governing body for the following school year
20 from among the textbooks on the appropriate conforming or
21 nonconforming list[~~, or~~

22 ~~[(2) for a subject in the enrichment curriculum:~~

23 ~~[(A) notify the State Board of Education of each~~
24 ~~textbook selected by the board of trustees or governing body for the~~
25 ~~following school year from among the textbooks on the appropriate~~
26 ~~conforming or nonconforming list; or~~

27 ~~[(B) notify the State Board of Education that the~~

1 ~~board of trustees or governing body has selected a textbook that is~~
2 ~~not on the conforming or nonconforming list].~~

3 SECTION 7. Sections 31.022(c) and 31.101(b), (c), and (d),
4 Education Code, are repealed.

5 SECTION 8. This Act applies beginning with the 2006-2007
6 school year.

7 SECTION 9. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.