

1-1 By: Morrison (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 2808
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2005;
1-3 May 2, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 20, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;
1-6 May 20, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2808 By: West

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the P-16 Council and to the functioning of certain
1-11 educational programs.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 61.076, Education Code, is amended to
1-14 read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 61.076. P-16 COUNCIL ~~[COOPERATION BETWEEN STATE~~
1-16 ~~AGENCIES OF EDUCATION]~~. (a) It is the policy of the State of Texas
1-17 that the entire system of education supported with public funds be
1-18 coordinated to provide the citizens with efficient, effective, and
1-19 high quality educational services and activities. The P-16 Council
1-20 ~~[board and the State Board of Education]~~, in conjunction with
1-21 ~~[such]~~ other agencies as may be appropriate, shall ensure that
1-22 long-range plans and educational programs for the state
1-23 ~~[established by the boards]~~ complement the functioning of the
1-24 entire system of public education, extending from early childhood
1-25 education through postgraduate study. ~~[In assuring that plans and~~
1-26 ~~programs are coordinated, the boards shall use the P-16 Council~~
1-27 ~~established under Section 61.077.]~~

1-28 (b) The P-16 Council is composed of the commissioner of
1-29 education, the commissioner of higher education, the executive
1-30 director of the Texas Workforce Commission, the executive director
1-31 of the State Board for Educator Certification, and the commissioner
1-32 of assistive and rehabilitative services. The commissioner of
1-33 higher education and the commissioner of education shall serve as
1-34 co-chairs of the council.

1-35 (c) The co-chairs may appoint three additional members who
1-36 are education professionals, business representatives, or other
1-37 members of the community. Members appointed to the council under
1-38 this subsection serve two-year terms expiring February 1 of each
1-39 odd-numbered year.

1-40 (d) The council shall meet at least once each calendar
1-41 quarter and may hold other meetings as necessary at the call of the
1-42 co-chairs. Each member of the council or the member's designee
1-43 shall make a report of the council's activities at least twice
1-44 annually to the governing body of the member's agency, except that
1-45 the commissioner of education or that commissioner's designee shall
1-46 report to the State Board of Education and the commissioner of
1-47 assistive and rehabilitative services or that commissioner's
1-48 designee shall report to the executive commissioner of the Health
1-49 and Human Services Commission.

1-50 (e) The council shall coordinate plans and programs [of the
1-51 two boards], including curricula, instructional programs,
1-52 research, and other functions as appropriate. This coordination
1-53 shall include the following areas:

- 1-54 (1) equal educational opportunity for all Texans;
1-55 (2) college recruitment, with special emphasis on the
1-56 recruitment of minority students;
1-57 (3) preparation of high school students for further
1-58 study at colleges and universities;
1-59 (4) reduction of the dropout rate and dropout
1-60 prevention;
1-61 (5) teacher education, recruitment, and retention;
1-62 (6) testing and assessment; and
1-63 (7) adult education programs.

(f) The council shall examine and make recommendations regarding the alignment of secondary and postsecondary education curricula and testing and assessment. This subsection does not require the council to establish curriculum or testing or assessment standards.

(g) The council shall advise the board and the State Board of Education on the coordination of postsecondary career and technology activities, career and technology teacher education programs offered or proposed to be offered in the colleges and universities of this state, and other relevant matters, including:

(1) coordinating postsecondary career and technology education and the articulation between postsecondary career and technology education and secondary career and technology education;

(2) facilitating the transfer of responsibilities for the administration of postsecondary career and technology education from the State Board of Education to the board in accordance with Section 111(a)(I) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act (Pub. L. No. 98-524);

(3) advising the State Board of Education, when it acts as the State Board for Career and Technology Education, on the following:

(A) the transfer of federal funds to the board for allotment to eligible public postsecondary institutions of higher education;

(B) the career and technology education funding for projects and institutions as determined by the board when the State Board for Career and Technology Education is required by federal law to endorse those determinations;

(C) the development and updating of the state plan for career and technology education and the evaluation of programs, services, and activities of postsecondary career and technology education and amendments to the state plan for career and technology education as may relate to postsecondary education;

(D) other matters related to postsecondary career and technology education; and

(E) the coordination of curricula, instructional programs, research, and other functions as appropriate, including school-to-work and school-to-college transition programs and professional development activities; and

(4) advising the Texas Workforce Investment Council on educational policy issues related to workforce preparation.

(h) On or before January 1, 2007, the P-16 Council shall:

(1) review existing school district programs that provide high school students with the opportunity to enroll in advanced academic courses offered through dual credit and concurrent enrollment programs, including reviewing courses currently approved by districts and offered by institutions of higher education for dual and concurrent enrollment credit;

(2) review the high school curriculum required for the recommended high school program under Section 28.025 and study the feasibility of offering a revised curriculum that would provide graduating high school students with at least 12 hours of advanced academic courses or college-level coursework offered through dual credit and concurrent enrollment programs provided under agreements between high schools and institutions of higher education; and

(3) prepare and deliver a report based on the review and study to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the presiding officer of the standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over public education.

(i) Subsection (h) and this subsection expire January 2, 2007.

SECTION 2. (a) Section 61.077, Education Code, as amended by Chapters 61, 818, and 820, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is repealed.

(b) To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails over another Act of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005,

relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

SECTION 3. Not later than September 1, 2006, the Legislative Budget Board shall:

(1) study the resource needs of high-quality early childhood care and education programs, including Head Start, Early Head Start, prekindergarten, after-school programs, and licensed child-care programs; and

(2) report the board's findings and recommendations to the P-16 Council, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the 79th Legislature regarding:

(A) the results of the study described by Subdivision (1);

(B) recommended options to secure additional funding for the programs described by Subdivision (1); and

(C) a recommended plan to implement, in phases, full-day prekindergarten programs for at-risk children and to expand the eligibility criteria for those programs.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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