

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 936
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 3, 2005; March 14, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 5, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute to Committee on Education; April 18, 2005, reported
1-6 adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute from Committee on
1-7 Education by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 18, 2005,
1-8 sent to printer.)

1-9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 936 By: West

1-10 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-11 AN ACT

1-12 relating to practices of school districts that concern the
1-13 admission process to institutions of higher education.

1-14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-15 SECTION 1. Subsection (e), Section 28.025, Education Code,
1-16 is amended to read as follows:

1-17 (e) Each school district shall report the academic
1-18 achievement record of a student in an electronic format [~~students~~
1-19 ~~who have completed a minimum, recommended, or advanced high school~~
1-20 ~~program~~] on a uniform transcript form [~~forms~~] adopted by the State
1-21 Board of Education. The transcript form [~~forms~~] adopted by the
1-22 board must be designed to:

1-23 (1) clearly differentiate between [~~each of~~] the
1-24 minimum, recommended, and advanced high school programs and
1-25 identify the program completed by a student;

1-26 (2) provide information in a standard format
1-27 regarding:

1-28 (A) any honors, advanced placement, or
1-29 international baccalaureate courses available at a student's high
1-30 school and which, if any, of those courses the student completed;
1-31 and

1-32 (B) any college-level courses available to a
1-33 student under a dual credit program provided under an agreement
1-34 between the student's high school and an institution of higher
1-35 education and which, if any, of those courses the student
1-36 completed; and

1-37 (3) identify whether a student received a diploma or a
1-38 certificate of coursework completion.

1-39 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
1-40 amended by adding Section 28.0252 to read as follows:

1-41 Sec. 28.0252. COMPUTATION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT
1-42 AVERAGE. (a) The commissioner shall develop a standard method of
1-43 computing a student's high school grade point average that provides
1-44 for additional weight to be given to each honors course, advanced
1-45 placement course, international baccalaureate course, or dual
1-46 credit course described by Section 28.025(e)(2)(B) completed by a
1-47 student.

1-48 (b) A school district shall use the standard method
1-49 developed under this section to compute a student's high school
1-50 grade point average, and the student's grade point average computed
1-51 in that manner shall be used in determining the student's
1-52 eligibility for automatic college admission under Section 51.803.

1-53 (b-1) Subsection (b) applies only to students entering
1-54 grade nine during or after the 2007-2008 school year. This
1-55 subsection expires September 1, 2010.

1-56 (c) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to implement
1-57 this section.

1-58 SECTION 3. (a) The Texas Education Agency shall conduct a
1-59 study to determine the feasibility of requiring school districts to
1-60 provide high school seniors with an elective class period during
1-61 the school day to enable the student to:

1-62 (1) research colleges and major areas of study;

1-63 (2) work with guidance counselors in preparing college

2-1 applications, admission essays, and financial aid applications;
2-2 and

2-3 (3) search for scholarships and financial aid options.
2-4 (b) In conducting the study required by this section, the
2-5 Texas Education Agency shall survey the current practices of school
2-6 districts in this state and determine the best practices relating
2-7 to college application assistance for high school seniors.

2-8 (c) Not later than December 1, 2006, the Texas Education
2-9 Agency shall submit a report on the results of the study required by
2-10 this section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the
2-11 legislature.

2-12 SECTION 4. The State Board of Education shall adopt the
2-13 uniform transcript form required by Subsection (e), Section 28.025,
2-14 Education Code, as amended by this Act, as soon as practicable after
2-15 the effective date of this Act and not later than January 1, 2006. A
2-16 school district shall use the form beginning with the 2006-2007
2-17 school year.

2-18 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-22 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

2-23 * * * * *