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(In the Senate - Filed March 22, 2005; April 4, 2005, read first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education; May 3, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute to Committee on Education; May 6, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute from Committee on Education by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 6, 2005, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1809 By: Staples

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

relating to statewide evaluation of tech-prep consortia.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.853, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to read as follows:

(e) An entity established after January 1, 2005, may not be a tech-prep consortium for purposes of this subchapter unless the entity is established or otherwise formed after that date as a result of an action taken under Subsection (f)(1) or (2).

(f) In accordance with rules adopted by the board, if a tech-prep consortium fails to meet standards established under Section 61.858, that consortium:

(1) may be consolidated with an existing consortium to serve the regions formerly served by both consortia; or

(2) may be abolished and a new consortium may be established to serve the region formerly served by the abolished consortium and to meet the goals of the abolished consortium's tech-prep program.

(g) In adopting rules for purposes of Subsection (f), the board shall specifically describe:

(1) the type of failure to meet standards that may result in an action being taken under Subsection (f)(1) or (2), including whether an action may result only from a severe or repeated deviation from a standard or from the failure to meet one or more particular standards; and

(2) which action authorized under Subsection (f) may be taken for each type of failure to meet standards.

SECTION 2. Subchapter T, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.858 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.858. STATEWIDE EVALUATION. (a) In coordination with tech-prep consortia, including the governing board of each tech-prep consortium, the board shall develop and implement a statewide system to evaluate each consortium based on the success of the consortium's tech-prep program and other appropriate criteria. The evaluation system must include standards that a tech-prep consortium, including the consortium's governing board, is expected to meet in administering the consortium's duties under this subchapter.

(b) Using the criteria developed under Subsection (a), the board shall evaluate each tech-prep consortium biennially. Not later than October 1 of each even-numbered year, the board shall report to each tech-prep consortium the results of the evaluation. The report must discuss any failure of the tech-prep consortium to meet a standard established under Subsection (a) during the reporting period, recognize the achievements of the consortium, including the consortium's meeting of standards during the reporting period, identify areas in which the consortium has made improvement or should take steps to improve its performance, and identify best practices of tech-prep consortia.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2006, the board shall issue the initial reports required by this section. This subsection expires October 31, 2006.

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

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