

By: Howard of Fort Bend

H.B. No. 1665

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to certain requirements relating to public school reading
3 instruction and textbooks.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

7 (b-1) The essential knowledge and skills of English
8 language arts must include reading. The reading curriculum, based
9 on scientifically based reading research, must be grade specific
10 and increase in depth and complexity from one school year to the
11 next, focus on core knowledge, and include essential components of
12 reading instruction and instruction to promote reading. In this
13 subsection, "essential components of reading instruction,"
14 "reading," and "scientifically based reading research" have the
15 meanings assigned by Section 1208, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
16 (20 U.S.C. Section 6368).

17 SECTION 2. Section 31.023, Education Code, is amended by
18 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
19 follows:

20 (a) For each subject and grade level, the State Board of
21 Education shall adopt two lists of textbooks. The conforming list
22 includes each textbook submitted for the subject and grade level
23 that meets applicable physical specifications adopted by the State
24 Board of Education, ~~and~~ contains material covering each element

1 of the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and grade level
2 as determined by the State Board of Education under Section 28.002
3 presented in an educationally effective manner as proven by
4 scientifically based research, and is adopted under Section 31.024.
5 The nonconforming list includes each textbook submitted for the
6 subject and grade level that:

7 (1) meets applicable physical specifications adopted
8 by the State Board of Education;

9 (2) contains material covering at least half, but not
10 all, of the elements of the essential knowledge and skills of the
11 subject and grade level presented in an educationally effective
12 manner as proven by scientifically based research; and

13 (3) is adopted under Section 31.024.

14 (a-1) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (a), to
15 be placed on the conforming or nonconforming list, a reading
16 textbook must include essential components of reading instruction
17 and instruction to promote reading, as defined by Section 1208, No
18 Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Section 6368), and reflect
19 an increase in depth and complexity from one school year to the
20 next.

21 SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 31, Education Code, is
22 amended by adding Section 31.032 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 31.032. TEACHER EDITIONS OF READING TEXTBOOKS. Each
24 teacher edition of a reading textbook must address:

25 (1) the structure of the English language;

26 (2) the relationships among reading, writing, and
27 spelling;

1 (3) planning and delivering appropriate reading
2 instruction based on assessment and evaluation; and

3 (4) independent student reading of high quality books
4 and the relationship of that reading to improved reading
5 performance.

6 SECTION 4. Sections 39.023(a) and (g), Education Code, are
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The agency shall adopt or develop appropriate
9 criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess
10 essential knowledge and skills in pre-reading, reading, writing,
11 mathematics, social studies, and science. All students, except
12 students assessed under Subsection (b) or (l) or exempted under
13 Section 39.027, shall be assessed in:

14 (1) mathematics, annually in grades three through
15 seven without the aid of technology and in grades eight through 11
16 with the aid of technology on any assessment instruments that
17 include algebra;

18 (2) reading, annually in grades three through nine;

19 (3) writing, including spelling and grammar, in grades
20 four and seven;

21 (4) English language arts, in grade 10;

22 (5) social studies, in grades eight and 10;

23 (6) science, in grades five, eight, and 10; [~~and~~]

24 (7) pre-reading, including phoneme awareness, letter
25 sound knowledge, and letter knowledge, in kindergarten; and

26 (8) any other subject and grade required by federal
27 law.

1 (g) The State Board of Education may adopt one appropriate,
2 nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessment instrument in
3 reading and mathematics to be administered to a selected sample of
4 students in the spring. The board shall adopt one appropriate,
5 nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessment instrument in
6 basic reading and reading comprehension to be administered to all
7 nonexempt students in grade three. Each [~~If adopted, a~~]
8 norm-referenced assessment instrument must be a secured test. The
9 state may pay the costs of purchasing and scoring the optional
10 norm-referenced [~~adopted~~] assessment instrument and of
11 distributing the results of that [~~the adopted~~] instrument to the
12 school districts. The state shall pay the costs of purchasing and
13 scoring the third-grade reading assessment instrument and of
14 distributing the results of that instrument to the school
15 districts. A district [~~that administers the norm-referenced test~~
16 ~~adopted under this subsection~~] shall report the results of each
17 norm-referenced assessment instrument administered by the district
18 under this subsection to the agency in a manner prescribed by the
19 commissioner.

20 SECTION 5. Notwithstanding the textbook review and adoption
21 requirements under Section 31.022, Education Code, or the textbook
22 review and adoption cycle the State Board of Education adopts under
23 that section, the board shall review and adopt reading textbooks
24 that satisfy requirements under Section 31.023, Education Code, as
25 amended by this Act, and accompanying teacher edition reading
26 textbooks that satisfy requirements under Section 31.032,
27 Education Code, as added by this Act, as soon as practicable.

1 SECTION 6. Sections 1-4 of this Act apply beginning with the
2 2007-2008 school year.

3 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.