

By: West, Royce

S.B. No. 1018

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishment of a pilot program to improve mathematics instruction in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter J, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.4541 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.4541. MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES PILOT PROGRAM. (a) Using funds appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner by rule shall establish a pilot program under which participating school districts and campuses receive assistance in developing the instructional expertise of teachers who instruct students in mathematics at the middle school, junior high school, or high school level.

(b) The commissioner shall select school districts and campuses to participate in the pilot program that have relatively low:

(1) levels of student performance at the middle school, junior high school, or high school level on the assessment instruments in mathematics required under Section 39.023; and

(2) numbers of teachers who are properly certified in mathematics under Subchapter B.

(c) The commissioner shall design the pilot program so that each participating school district or campus has access to the services of an individual who is certified under Subchapter B to

1 teach mathematics at the appropriate grade levels and who has
2 significant experience in providing mathematics instruction to
3 students. The individual must be available to provide
4 instructional coaching to district or campus teachers who provide
5 instruction in mathematics at the middle school, junior high
6 school, or high school level. The instructional coaching may
7 include:

8 (1) providing classes to teachers on effective
9 mathematics instruction;

10 (2) providing individual tutoring to teachers
11 regarding effective mathematics instruction; or

12 (3) engaging in any other activities determined by the
13 commissioner as likely to improve the instructional skills of
14 teachers providing mathematics instruction.

15 (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
16 implement the pilot program.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.