

By: West, Royce

S.B. No. 1513

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a dropout prevention and opportunity program for public  
3 school students who have dropped out of school or are at risk of  
4 dropping out of school.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding  
7 Subchapter K to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER K. DROPOUT PREVENTION AND OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

9 Sec. 29.401. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

10 (1) "Internet degree program" means an educational  
11 institution that furnishes or offers to furnish courses of  
12 instruction by electronic media.

13 (2) "Program" means the dropout prevention and  
14 opportunity program described by this subchapter.

15 Sec. 29.402. ELIGIBLE STUDENT. A student is eligible to  
16 participate in the program if the student has dropped out of school  
17 or is a student at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by  
18 Section 29.081.

19 Sec. 29.403. EDUCATION SERVICE PROVIDER. (a) An eligible  
20 student may receive education services from an education service  
21 provider approved by the commissioner. Entities that may apply to  
22 the commissioner for approval as an education service provider  
23 include:

24 (1) a public school;

- 1           (2) an open-enrollment charter school;
- 2           (3) a community college;
- 3           (4) an institution of higher education;
- 4           (5) an Internet degree program; or
- 5           (6) an accredited private school.

6           (b) The commissioner shall adopt rules allowing an  
7 education service provider to develop an education program for  
8 eligible students under which an eligible student may receive a  
9 high school diploma on completion of the program.

10          Sec. 29.404. FUNDING. The commissioner shall allocate to  
11 an education service provider funding in an amount equal to the  
12 amount of state and local funding per student in weighted average  
13 daily attendance to which the school district the eligible student  
14 last attended is entitled under Chapter 42.

15          Sec. 29.405. PERFORMANCE BONUS. The commissioner may  
16 award a performance bonus for an eligible student who receives a  
17 high school diploma under this subchapter in an amount not to exceed  
18 \$1,000. The commissioner may provide for the performance bonus to  
19 be allocated between the education service provider and the  
20 eligible student.

21          Sec. 29.406. RULES. The commissioner shall adopt rules to  
22 implement this subchapter.

23          SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008  
24 school year.

25          SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.