

By: Hochberg

H.B. No. 1297

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to optional flexible school day program courses offered by
3 school districts to enable students to earn course credit under
4 certain circumstances.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 29.0822, Education Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read
8 as follows:

9 (a) Notwithstanding Section 25.081 or 25.082, a school
10 district may apply to the commissioner to provide a flexible school
11 day program for students [~~in grades nine through 12~~] who:

12 (1) have dropped out of school or are at risk of
13 dropping out of school as defined by Section 29.081; [~~or~~]

14 (2) attend a campus that is implementing an innovative
15 redesign of the campus or an early college high school under a plan
16 approved by the commissioner; or

17 (3) as a result of attendance requirements under
18 Section 25.092, will be denied credit for one or more classes in
19 which the students have been enrolled.

20 (c) Except in the case of a course designed for a student
21 described by Subsection (a)(3), a [A] course offered in a program
22 under this section must provide for at least the same number of
23 instructional hours as required for a course offered in a program
24 that meets the required minimum number of instructional days under

1 Section 25.081 and the required length of school day under Section
2 25.082.

3 (e) A student described by Subsection (a)(3) may enroll in a
4 course in a program under this section offered during the school
5 year or during the period in which school is recessed for the
6 summer. The student may enroll in such a course to the extent
7 necessary for the student to earn class credit that, as a result of
8 attendance requirements under Section 25.092, the student would not
9 otherwise be able to receive without retaking the class.

10 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
11 school year.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.