

By: Keffer

H.B. No. 2471

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to career and technical education in the public schools  
3 and high school graduation requirements.

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

5 ARTICLE 1. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

6 SECTION 1.01. Sections 28.002(a) and (n), Education Code,  
7 are amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through  
9 grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

10 (1) a foundation curriculum that includes:

11 (A) English language arts;

12 (B) mathematics;

13 (C) science; and

14 (D) social studies, consisting of Texas, United  
15 States, and world history, government, and geography; and

16 (2) an enrichment curriculum that includes:

17 (A) to the extent possible, languages other than  
18 English;

19 (B) health, with emphasis on the importance of  
20 proper nutrition and exercise;

21 (C) physical education;

22 (D) fine arts;

23 (E) economics, with emphasis on the free  
24 enterprise system and its benefits;

- 1 (F) career and technical ~~technology~~ education;  
2 (G) technology applications; and  
3 (H) religious literature, including the Hebrew  
4 Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact on  
5 history and literature.

6 (n) The State Board of Education shall ~~may~~ by rule develop  
7 and implement a plan designed to incorporate foundation curriculum  
8 requirements into the career and technical ~~technology~~ education  
9 curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(F).

10 SECTION 1.02. Section 28.025 of the Education Code is  
11 amended to read:

12 Sec. 28.025. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE; ACADEMIC  
13 ACHIEVEMENT RECORD. (a) The State Board of Education by rule  
14 shall determine curriculum requirements for the ~~minimum~~  
15 standard, recommended, and advanced high school programs that are  
16 consistent with the required curriculum under Section 28.002.

17 (b) A school district shall ensure that each student enrolls  
18 in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements  
19 identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a) for  
20 the recommended ~~or~~ and advanced high school and program unless the  
21 student, the student's parent or other person standing in parental  
22 relation to the student, and a school counselor or school  
23 administrator agree that the student should be permitted to take  
24 courses under the ~~minimum~~ standard high school programs. The  
25 State Board of Education by rule shall require that:

26 (1) the curriculum requirements for the ~~recommended~~  
27 ~~and~~ advanced high school programs include a requirement that

1 students successfully complete four courses in each subject of the  
2 foundation curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1); and

3 (2) Within the recommended program students shall have  
4 at least two distinct options, including but not limited to:

5 (A) a science and mathematics option that shall  
6 require four credits in mathematics and four credits in science  
7 from the list of courses approved by the State Board of Education;  
8 and

9 (b) an opportunities option that that shall not  
10 require more than three credits in mathematics and three credits in  
11 science; this option shall include four credits approved by the  
12 State Board of Education in any combination of the following  
13 courses:

- 14 (i) career and technical;
- 15 (ii) English language arts;
- 16 (iii) social studies;
- 17 (iv) languages other than English; and
- 18 (v) fine arts.

19 (c) A school district may submit one or more career and  
20 technical course for review and approval by the State Board of  
21 Education to satisfy the requirements of subsections  
22 28.002(a)(1)(B) and 28.002(a)(1)(C). The district shall submit any  
23 such course on or before January 1 preceding the first school year  
24 for which the district requests approval of the course.

25 (1) The district shall submit a detailed description  
26 of the course, the curriculum, the instructional materials and/or  
27 equipment required, and any other information required by the

1 board.

2 (2) The board shall have 180 days from the date the  
3 district requests approval of the course and submits required  
4 information to approve or disapprove the course. If the board (or  
5 commissioner) does not disapprove the course within the 180-day  
6 period, the course shall be deemed approved to meet the  
7 requirements of subsections 28.002(a)(1)(B) and 28.002(a)(1)(C).

8 (3) Approval of a course by the board or by expiration  
9 of the 180-day period shall be for a period of three school years,  
10 after which the district may request that the course be re-approved  
11 for an additional three-year period.

12 (4) Any school district in Texas may offer a course  
13 that has been approved in accordance with this subsection.

14 ~~(b-1d) (1) except as provided by Subsection (b-2), the~~  
15 ~~curriculum requirements for the recommended and advanced high~~  
16 ~~school programs under Subsection (a) include a requirement that~~  
17 ~~students successfully complete four courses in each subject of the~~  
18 ~~foundation curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1);~~

19 ~~(2) one or more courses offered in the required~~  
20 ~~curriculum for the recommended and advanced high school programs~~  
21 ~~include a research writing component.~~

22 ~~(b-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State~~  
23 ~~Board of Education shall allow a student to comply with the~~  
24 ~~curriculum requirements for a mathematics course under Subsection~~  
25 ~~(b-1)(1) taken after the successful completion of an Algebra II~~  
26 ~~course or science course under Subsection (b-1)(1) taken after the~~  
27 ~~successful completion of a physics course by successfully~~

1 ~~completing an advanced career and technical course designated by~~  
2 ~~the State Board of Education as containing substantively similar~~  
3 ~~and rigorous academic content. A student may use the option~~  
4 ~~provided by this subsection for not more than two courses.~~

5 (ee) A person may receive a diploma if the person is  
6 eligible for a diploma under Section 28.0251. In other cases, a  
7 student may graduate and receive a diploma only if:

8 (1) the student successfully completes the curriculum  
9 requirements identified by the State Board of Education under  
10 Subsection (a) and complies with Section 39.025; or

11 (2) the student successfully completes an  
12 individualized education program developed under Section 29.005.

13 (ef) A school district may issue a certificate of coursework  
14 completion to a student who successfully completes the curriculum  
15 requirements identified by the State Board of Education under  
16 Subsection (a) but who fails to comply with Section 39.025. A  
17 school district may allow a student who receives a certificate to  
18 participate in a graduation ceremony with students receiving high  
19 school diplomas.

20 (eg) Each school district shall report the academic  
21 achievement record of students who have completed a ~~minimum~~  
22 standard, recommended, or advanced high school program on  
23 transcript forms adopted by the State Board of Education. The  
24 transcript forms adopted by the board must be designed to clearly  
25 differentiate between each of the high school programs and identify  
26 whether a student received a diploma or a certificate of coursework  
27 completion.

1           (~~fh~~) A school district shall issue a certificate of  
2 attendance to a student who receives special education services  
3 under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, and who has completed four years of  
4 high school but has not completed the student's individualized  
5 education program. A school district shall allow a student who  
6 receives a certificate to participate in a graduation ceremony with  
7 students receiving high school diplomas. A student may participate  
8 in only one graduation ceremony under this subsection. This  
9 subsection does not preclude a student from receiving a diploma  
10 under Subsection ~~(c)(2)~~(e).

11           (~~gj~~) If a student, other than a student permitted to take  
12 courses under the ~~minimum~~ standard high school program as provided  
13 by Subsection ~~(bc)~~, is unable to complete the recommended or  
14 advanced high school program solely because necessary courses were  
15 unavailable to the student at the appropriate times in the  
16 student's high school career as a result of course scheduling, lack  
17 of enrollment capacity, or another cause not within the student's  
18 control, the school district shall indicate that fact on the  
19 student's transcript form described by Subsection ~~(eg)~~.

20           SECTION 1.03. Section 29.182, Education Code, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22           Sec. 29.182. STATE PLAN FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL  
23 ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION. (a) In coordination with the State Board of  
24 Education, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the comptroller, the  
25 [The] agency shall prepare and biennially update a state plan for  
26 career and technical ~~technology~~ education that sets forth  
27 objectives for career and technical ~~technology~~ education for the

1 next biennium and long-term goals for the following five years.

2 (b) The state plan must include procedures designed to  
3 ensure that:

4 (1) all secondary and postsecondary students have the  
5 opportunity to participate in career and technical ~~technology~~  
6 education programs;

7 (2) the state complies with requirements for  
8 supplemental federal career and technical ~~technology~~ education  
9 funding; and

10 (3) career and technical ~~technology~~ education is  
11 established as a part of the total education system of this state.

12 (c) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
13 agency shall submit the most recently updated state plan to the  
14 legislature.

15 SECTION 1.04. Section 39.025(a), Education Code, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 (a) The commissioner shall adopt rules requiring a student  
18 participating in the recommended or advanced high school program to  
19 be administered each end-of-course assessment instrument listed in  
20 Section 39.023(c) and requiring a student participating in the  
21 standard ~~minimum~~ high school program to be administered an  
22 end-of-course assessment instrument listed in Section 39.023(c)  
23 only for a course in which the student is enrolled and for which an  
24 end-of-course assessment instrument is administered. A student is  
25 required to achieve, in each subject in the foundation curriculum  
26 under Section 28.002(a)(1), a cumulative score that is at least  
27 equal to the product of the number of end-of-course assessment

1 instruments administered to the student in that subject and 70,  
2 with each end-of-course assessment instrument scored on a scale of  
3 100. A student must achieve a score of at least 60 on an  
4 end-of-course assessment instrument for the score to count towards  
5 the student's cumulative score. For purposes of this subsection, a  
6 student's cumulative score is determined using the student's  
7 highest score on each end-of-course assessment instrument  
8 administered to the student. A student may not receive a high  
9 school diploma until the student has performed satisfactorily on  
10 the end-of-course assessment instruments in the manner provided  
11 under this subsection. This subsection does not require a student  
12 to demonstrate readiness to enroll in an institution of higher  
13 education.

14 SECTION 1.05. Subchapter D, Chapter 301, Labor Code, is  
15 amended by adding Section 301.0612 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 301.0612. EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL  
17 STUDENTS. (a) The commission shall provide the Texas Education  
18 Agency with information at least each quarter regarding current and  
19 projected employment opportunities in this state, disaggregated by  
20 county or other appropriate region.

21 (b) The Texas Education Agency shall provide the  
22 information obtained under Subsection (a) to school districts for  
23 use in local planning and implementation of career and technical  
24 education and training programs.

25 ARTICLE 2. TERMINOLOGY CHANGES

26 SECTION 2.01. Section 5.001(2), Education Code, is amended  
27 to read as follows:



1           (2) "Classroom teacher" means an educator who is  
2 employed by a school district and who, not less than an average of  
3 four hours each day, teaches in an academic instructional setting  
4 or a career and technical ~~technology~~ instructional setting. The  
5 term does not include a teacher's aide or a full-time  
6 administrator.

7           SECTION 2.02. Section 7.109, Education Code, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9           Sec. 7.109. DESIGNATION AS STATE BOARD FOR CAREER AND  
10 TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION. (a) The board is also the State  
11 Board for Career and Technical ~~technology~~ Education.

12           (b) The commissioner is the executive officer through whom  
13 the State Board for Career and Technical ~~technology~~ Education  
14 shall carry out its policies and enforce its rules.

15           (c) The State Board for Career and Technical [Technology]  
16 Education may contract with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating  
17 Board or any other state agency to assume the leadership role and  
18 administrative responsibility of the State Board for Career and  
19 Technical ~~technology~~ Education for state level administration of  
20 technical-vocational education programs in public community  
21 colleges, public technical institutes, and other eligible public  
22 postsecondary institutions in this state.

23           (d) The State Board for Career and Technical ~~technology~~  
24 Education may allocate funds appropriated to the board by the  
25 legislature or federal funds received by the board under the Carl D.  
26 Perkins Vocational Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 2301 et seq.)  
27 or other federal law to an institution or program approved by the

1 State Board of Education, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating  
2 Board, or another state agency specified by law.

3 SECTION 2.03. Section 11.158(g), Education Code, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 (g) This section does not prohibit a board of trustees from  
6 charging reasonable fees for goods and services provided in  
7 connection with any postsecondary instructional program, including  
8 career and technical ~~technology~~, adult, veterans', or continuing  
9 education, community service, evening school, and high school  
10 equivalency programs.

11 SECTION 2.04. Section 21.055(b), Education Code, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (b) To be eligible for a school district teaching permit  
14 under this section, a person must hold a baccalaureate degree. This  
15 subsection does not apply to a person who will teach only career and  
16 technical ~~technology~~ education.

17 SECTION 2.05. Section 28.003(b), Education Code, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 (b) In this section, "educational program" means a course or  
20 series of courses in the required curriculum under Section 28.002,  
21 other than a fine arts course under Section 28.002(a)(2)(D) or a  
22 career and technical ~~technology~~ course under Section  
23 28.002(a)(2)(F).

24 SECTION 2.06. Section 29.001, Education Code, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 Sec. 29.001. STATEWIDE PLAN. The agency shall develop, and  
27 modify as necessary, a statewide design, consistent with federal

1 law, for the delivery of services to children with disabilities in  
2 this state that includes rules for the administration and funding  
3 of the special education program so that a free appropriate public  
4 education is available to all of those children between the ages of  
5 three and 21. The statewide design shall include the provision of  
6 services primarily through school districts and shared services  
7 arrangements, supplemented by regional education service centers.  
8 The agency shall also develop and implement a statewide plan with  
9 programmatic content that includes procedures designed to:

10 (1) ensure state compliance with requirements for  
11 supplemental federal funding for all state-administered programs  
12 involving the delivery of instructional or related services to  
13 students with disabilities;

14 (2) facilitate interagency coordination when other  
15 state agencies are involved in the delivery of instructional or  
16 related services to students with disabilities;

17 (3) periodically assess statewide personnel needs in  
18 all areas of specialization related to special education and pursue  
19 strategies to meet those needs through a consortium of  
20 representatives from regional education service centers, local  
21 education agencies, and institutions of higher education and  
22 through other available alternatives;

23 (4) ensure that regional education service centers  
24 throughout the state maintain a regional support function, which  
25 may include direct service delivery and a component designed to  
26 facilitate the placement of students with disabilities who cannot  
27 be appropriately served in their resident districts;

1           (5) allow the agency to effectively monitor and  
2 periodically conduct site visits of all school districts to ensure  
3 that rules adopted under this section are applied in a consistent  
4 and uniform manner, to ensure that districts are complying with  
5 those rules, and to ensure that annual statistical reports filed by  
6 the districts and not otherwise available through the Public  
7 Education Information Management System under Section 42.006, are  
8 accurate and complete;

9           (6) ensure that appropriately trained personnel are  
10 involved in the diagnostic and evaluative procedures operating in  
11 all districts and that those personnel routinely serve on district  
12 admissions, review, and dismissal committees;

13           (7) ensure that an individualized education program  
14 for each student with a disability is properly developed,  
15 implemented, and maintained in the least restrictive environment  
16 that is appropriate to meet the student's educational needs;

17           (8) ensure that, when appropriate, each student with a  
18 disability is provided an opportunity to participate in career and  
19 technical ~~technology~~ and physical education classes, in addition  
20 to participating in regular or special classes;

21           (9) ensure that each student with a disability is  
22 provided necessary related services; and

23           (10) ensure that an individual assigned to act as a  
24 surrogate parent for a child with a disability, as provided by 20  
25 U.S.C. Section 1415(b) [and its subsequent amendments], is required  
26 to:

27           (A) complete a training program that complies

1 with minimum standards established by agency rule;

2 (B) visit the child and the child's school;

3 (C) consult with persons involved in the child's  
4 education, including teachers, caseworkers, court-appointed  
5 volunteers, guardians ad litem, attorneys ad litem, foster parents,  
6 and caretakers;

7 (D) review the child's educational records;

8 (E) attend meetings of the child's admission,  
9 review, and dismissal committee;

10 (F) exercise independent judgment in pursuing  
11 the child's interests; and

12 (G) exercise the child's due process rights under  
13 applicable state and federal law.

14 SECTION 2.07. The heading to Subchapter F, Chapter 29,  
15 Education Code, is amended to read as follows: SUBCHAPTER F.  
16 CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION PROGRAM

17 SECTION 2.08. The heading to Section 29.181, Education  
18 Code, is amended to read as follows:

19 Sec. 29.181. PUBLIC EDUCATION CAREER AND TECHNICAL  
20 ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION GOALS.

21 SECTION 2.09. Section 29.183, Education Code, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 Sec. 29.183. CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ AND OTHER  
24 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. a) The board of trustees of a school  
25 district may conduct and supervise career and technical  
26 ~~technology~~ classes and other educational programs for students and  
27 for other persons of all ages and spend local maintenance funds for

1 the cost of those classes and programs.

2 (b) In developing a career and technical ~~technology~~  
3 program, the board of trustees shall consider the state plan for  
4 career and technical ~~technology~~ education required under Section  
5 29.182.

6 SECTION 2.10. Section 29.184, Education Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 29.184. CONTRACTS WITH OTHER SCHOOLS FOR CAREER AND  
9 TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ CLASSES. (a) The board of trustees of a  
10 school district may contract with another school district or with a  
11 public or private postsecondary educational institution or trade or  
12 technical school that is regulated by this state, as designated in  
13 the state plan for career and technical ~~technology~~ education  
14 required under Section 29.182, to provide career and technical  
15 ~~technology~~ classes for students in the district.

16 (b) A student who attends career and technical ~~technology~~  
17 classes at another school under a contract authorized by Subsection  
18 (a) is included in the average daily attendance of the district in  
19 which the student is regularly enrolled.

20 SECTION 2.11. Section 29.185, Education Code, is amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 29.185. CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ PROGRAM  
23 RULES. The agency shall prescribe requirements for career and  
24 technical ~~technology~~ education in public schools as necessary to  
25 comply with federal law.

26 SECTION 2.12. The heading to Section 29.187, Education  
27 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1           Sec. 29.187. AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN CAREER  
2 AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION; PROGRAM.

3           SECTION 2.13. Sections 29.187(a) and (c), Education Code,  
4 are amended to read as follows:

5           (a) In addition to the authority granted under Section  
6 29.183, the board of trustees of a school district may develop and  
7 offer a program that provides a rigorous course of study consistent  
8 with the required curriculum under Section 28.002 and under which a  
9 student may:

10           (1) receive specific education in a career and  
11 technical ~~technology~~ profession that:

12                   (A) leads to postsecondary education; or

13                   (B) meets or exceeds business or industry  
14 standards; and

15           (2) obtain from the district an award for  
16 distinguished achievement in career and technical ~~technology~~  
17 education and a stamp or other notation on the student's transcript  
18 that indicates receipt of the award.

19           (c) In developing a program under this section, the board of  
20 trustees of a school district shall consider the state plan for  
21 career and technical ~~technology~~ education required under Section  
22 29.182.

23           SECTION 2.14. Section 29.188, Education Code, is amended to  
24 read as follows:

25           Sec. 29.188. RECOGNITION OF SUCCESSFUL CAREER AND TECHNICAL  
26 ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION PROGRAM. The governor is encouraged to  
27 present a proclamation or certificate to each member of the

1 business and industry community that the Texas Workforce  
2 Commission, in cooperation with the agency, determines has  
3 successfully assisted in the provision of a career and technical  
4 ~~technology~~ education program under this subchapter.

5 SECTION 2.15. Section 29.190(a), Education Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) A student is entitled to a subsidy under this section if  
8 the student:

9 (1) successfully completes the career and technical  
10 ~~technology~~ program of a school district in which the student  
11 receives training and instruction for employment in a certain trade  
12 or occupation;

13 (2) passes a certification examination to qualify for  
14 a license or certificate for the trade or occupation; and

15 (3) demonstrates financial need.

16 SECTION 2.16. Section 39.071(b), Education Code, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (b) Each year, the commissioner shall determine the  
19 accreditation status of each school district. In determining  
20 accreditation status, the commissioner:

21 (1) shall evaluate and consider the performance of the  
22 district under:

23 (A) the academic accountability system under  
24 Section 39.072; and

25 (B) the financial accountability rating system  
26 under Subchapter I; and

27 (2) may consider:



1 (A) the district's compliance with statutory  
2 requirements and requirements imposed by rule of the commissioner  
3 or State Board of Education under specific statutory authority that  
4 relate to:

5 (i) reporting data through the Public  
6 Education Information Management System (PEIMS) or other reports  
7 required by state or federal law or court order;

8 (ii) the high school graduation  
9 requirements under Section 28.025; or

10 (iii) an item listed under Sections  
11 7.056(e)(3)(C)-(I) that applies to the district;

12 (B) the effectiveness of the district's programs  
13 for special populations; and

14 (C) the effectiveness of the district's career  
15 and technical ~~technology~~ program.

16 SECTION 2.17. Section 39.072(b), Education Code, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (b) The academic excellence indicators adopted under  
19 Sections 39.051(b)(1) through (8) and the district's current  
20 special education compliance status with the agency shall be the  
21 main considerations of the agency in the rating of the district  
22 under this section. Additional criteria in the rules may include  
23 consideration of:

24 (1) compliance with statutory requirements and  
25 requirements imposed by rule of the State Board of Education under  
26 specific statutory authority that relate to:

27 (A) reporting data through the Public Education

1 Information Management System (PEIMS);

2 (B) the high school graduation requirements  
3 under Section 28.025; or

4 (C) an item listed in Sections  
5 7.056(e)(3)(C)-(I) that applies to the district;

6 (2) the effectiveness of the district's programs for  
7 special populations; and

8 (3) the effectiveness of the district's career and  
9 technical ~~technology~~ programs.

10 SECTION 2.18. The heading to Section 41.125, Education  
11 Code, is amended to read as follows:

12 Sec. 41.125. CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION  
13 PROGRAMS.

14 SECTION 2.19. Section 41.125(a), Education Code, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 (a) The board of trustees of a school district with a wealth  
17 per student that exceeds the equalized wealth level may reduce the  
18 district's wealth per student by executing an agreement to provide  
19 students of one or more other districts with career and technical  
20 ~~technology~~ education through a program designated as an area  
21 program for career and technical ~~technology~~ education.

22 SECTION 2.20. Section 42.101, Education Code, is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 Sec. 42.101. BASIC ALLOTMENT. For each student in average  
25 daily attendance, not including the time students spend each day in  
26 special education programs in an instructional arrangement other  
27 than mainstream or career and technical ~~technology~~ education

1 programs, for which an additional allotment is made under  
2 Subchapter C, a district is entitled to an allotment in an amount  
3 equal to the product of the amount per student per cent of tax  
4 effort available to a district at the percentile in wealth per  
5 student specified by Section 42.302(a-1)(1), multiplied by 86. A  
6 greater amount for any school year may be provided by  
7 appropriation.

8 SECTION 2.21. Section 42.154, Education Code, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 Sec. 42.154. CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION  
11 ALLOTMENT. (a) For each full-time equivalent student in average  
12 daily attendance in an approved career and technical ~~technology~~  
13 education program in grades nine through 12 or in career and  
14 technical ~~technology~~ education programs for students with  
15 disabilities in grades seven through 12, a district is entitled to  
16 an annual allotment equal to the adjusted basic allotment  
17 multiplied by a weight of 1.35.

18 (a-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,  
19 the commissioner shall develop and implement a pilot program under  
20 which a school district is entitled to additional funding for each  
21 student receiving career and technical ~~technology~~ instruction in  
22 grade eight. The commissioner shall select not more than five  
23 school districts for participation in the pilot program. In  
24 selecting school districts for participation, the commissioner  
25 shall consider school districts that can provide services under the  
26 program at the least cost. For each full-time equivalent student in  
27 grade eight in average daily attendance in an approved career and

1 technical ~~technology~~ education program, a school district  
2 participating in the program under this subsection is entitled to  
3 an annual allotment equal to the adjusted basic allotment  
4 multiplied by a weight of 1.35. Funds allocated under this  
5 subsection, other than an indirect cost allotment established under  
6 State Board of Education rule, must be used in providing career and  
7 technical ~~technology~~ programs in grade eight under Sections  
8 29.182, 29.183, and 29.184. A school district is entitled to an  
9 allotment under this subsection for each school year through the  
10 completion of the 2011-2012 school year. Not later than January 1,  
11 2013, the agency shall prepare and deliver to each member of the  
12 legislature a report describing the effectiveness of the pilot  
13 program described by this subsection. This subsection expires  
14 February 1, 2013.

15 (b) In this section, "full-time equivalent student" means  
16 30 hours of contact a week between a student and career and  
17 technical ~~technology~~ education program personnel.

18 (c) Funds allocated under this section, other than an  
19 indirect cost allotment established under State Board of Education  
20 rule, must be used in providing career and technical ~~technology~~  
21 education programs in grades nine through 12 or career and  
22 technical ~~technology~~ education programs for students with  
23 disabilities in grades seven through 12 under Sections 29.182,  
24 29.183, and 29.184.

25 (d) The commissioner shall conduct a cost-benefit  
26 comparison between career and technical ~~technology~~ education  
27 programs and mathematics and science programs.

1 (e) Out of the total statewide allotment for career and  
2 technical ~~technology~~ education under this section, the  
3 commissioner shall set aside an amount specified in the General  
4 Appropriations Act, which may not exceed an amount equal to one  
5 percent of the total amount appropriated, to support regional  
6 career and technical ~~technology~~ education planning. After  
7 deducting the amount set aside under this subsection from the total  
8 amount appropriated for career and technical ~~technology~~  
9 education under this section, the commissioner shall reduce each  
10 district's tier one allotments in the same manner described for a  
11 reduction in allotments under Section 42.253.

12 SECTION 2.22. Section 42.155(f), Education Code, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (f) The cost of transporting career and technical  
15 ~~technology~~ education students from one campus to another inside a  
16 district or from a sending district to another secondary public  
17 school for a career and technical ~~technology~~ program or an area  
18 career and technical ~~technology~~ school or to an approved  
19 post-secondary institution under a contract for instruction  
20 approved by the agency shall be reimbursed based on the number of  
21 actual miles traveled times the district's official  
22 extracurricular travel per mile rate as set by the board of trustees  
23 and approved by the agency.

24 SECTION 2.23. The heading to Section 45.106, Education  
25 Code, is amended to read as follows:

26 Sec. 45.106. USE OF COUNTY AVAILABLE FUND APPORTIONMENT FOR  
27 AREA SCHOOLS CAREER AND TECHNICAL ~~TECHNOLOGY~~ EDUCATION.

1 SECTION 2.24. Section 45.106(a), Education Code, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 (a) A school district or accumulation of districts that  
4 operates a school designated as an area school for career and  
5 technical ~~technology~~ education purposes or that participates in a  
6 designated area career and technical ~~technology~~ education  
7 program shall use its annual county available school fund  
8 apportionment, if any, in the operation of the area school or  
9 program or in financing facilities for the school, notwithstanding  
10 any laws to the contrary.

11 SECTION 2.25. Section 62.155, Labor Code, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 Sec. 62.155. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN YOUTHS AND STUDENTS. An  
14 employer is exempt from this chapter with respect to the employment  
15 of a person who:

16 (1) is less than 18 years of age and is not a high  
17 school graduate or a graduate of a career and technical  
18 [vocational] training program, other than a person who is employed  
19 in agriculture and whose pay is computed on a piece rate;

20 (2) is less than 20 years of age and is a student  
21 regularly enrolled in a high school, college, university, or career  
22 and technical [vocational] training program, other than a person  
23 who is employed in agriculture and whose pay is computed on a piece  
24 rate; or

25 (3) has a disability and who is:

26 (A) not more than 21 years of age;

27 (B) a client of vocational rehabilitation; and

1                   (C) participating in a cooperative school-work  
2 program.

3                   ARTICLE 3. REPEALER; EFFECTIVE DATE

4           SECTION 3.01. Sections 28.025(b) and (b-2), Education Code,  
5 are repealed.

6           SECTION 3.02. Not later than January 1, 2010, the State  
7 Board of Education shall adopt rules as required by Section  
8 28.025(b-1), Education Code, as amended by this Act. The rules  
9 shall provide that the curriculum requirements for the recommended  
10 and advanced high school programs adopted under that subsection  
11 apply to a student regardless of the school year in which the  
12 student entered the ninth grade.

13           SECTION 3.03. This Act takes effect immediately if it  
14 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
15 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.  
16 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate  
17 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.