

By: Patrick, Dan

S.B. No. 1184

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to online and correspondence real estate and real estate inspection courses.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 1101, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1101.3051 to read as follows:

Sec. 1101.3051. ONLINE AND CORRESPONDENCE COURSES. An accredited real estate or real estate inspection education program may offer a course required to obtain a license under this chapter or Chapter 1102 online or by correspondence if:

(1) the program is a domestic entity, as defined by Section 1.002, Business Organizations Code;

(2) the program's principal office is located in this state;

(3) the course that is offered online or by correspondence is also offered with in-person instruction by the program at a physical location in this state;

(4) the course:

(A) has learning objectives for each area of instruction;

(B) is measured in clock hours of instruction;

(C) includes pre-assessments in each area of instruction to determine the student's level of competence before taking the course; and

1                   (D) includes post-assessments to determine the  
2 student's overall comprehension of the subject matter;

3                   (5) the program requires students who are completing a  
4 correspondence course to pass an examination administered by a  
5 proctor who meets requirements adopted by the commission by rule;

6                   (6) the program requires students who are completing  
7 an online course to pass an examination that includes a method to  
8 calculate the time for each question or time for each area of study;

9                   (7) the program provides for an instructor approved by  
10 the commission to be available by telephone or e-mail or online to  
11 answer students' questions; and

12                   (8) each of the program's instructors is approved by  
13 the commission.

14                   SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.