

1-1 By: Shapiro, West S.B. No. 1576
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2009; March 17, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 7, 2009,
1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 7, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1576 By: Shapiro

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to an algebra instruction grant program.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
1-12 amended by adding Section 29.092 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 29.092. ALGEBRA INSTRUCTION GRANT PROGRAM. (a) From
1-14 funds appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner shall
1-15 establish a program under which grants are awarded to school
1-16 districts to implement an algebra instruction program. From the
1-17 funds appropriated for use under Section 28.0211, the commissioner
1-18 may use not more than \$50 million for the grant program provided by
1-19 this section.

1-20 (b) The commissioner shall develop a comprehensive
1-21 intervention plan to assist school districts with a
1-22 disproportionate number of students who fail to perform
1-23 satisfactorily on the assessment instrument administered under
1-24 Section 39.023(a)(1) in grades five through seven. The plan must be
1-25 based on high-quality research.

1-26 (c) The commissioner shall establish application criteria
1-27 for receiving a grant under this section. The criteria must require
1-28 a school district that applies for a grant to submit a local
1-29 intervention plan that meets the standards adopted by the
1-30 commissioner. In awarding grants under this section, the
1-31 commissioner shall give preference to districts with the lowest
1-32 rate of satisfactory performance on assessment instruments
1-33 administered under Section 39.023(a)(1) in grades five through
1-34 seven.

1-35 (d) A grant under this section must:

1-36 (1) support sustained improvement in the school
1-37 district's pre-algebra mathematics instruction in grades five
1-38 through eight; and

1-39 (2) target students who will be administered the
1-40 Algebra I end-of-course assessment instrument beginning in the
1-41 2011-2012 school year.

1-42 (e) A grant awarded under this section may be used for
1-43 providing:

1-44 (1) training and payment of state intervention coaches
1-45 to assist school districts in implementing the grant;

1-46 (2) training and instructional materials in
1-47 pre-algebra skills in grades five through eight;

1-48 (3) professional development of mathematics teachers
1-49 assigned to grades five through eight;

1-50 (4) flexibility in the school day for instruction;

1-51 (5) instructional services; and

1-52 (6) technology as part of instructional activities.

1-53 (f) The commissioner may condition a grant on the
1-54 implementation of the comprehensive intervention plan and may
1-55 withhold or recover any funds not spent as provided by the plan
1-56 approved under Subsection (b). A decision of the commissioner
1-57 under this subsection is final and may not be appealed.

1-58 (g) The commissioner may require a school district to make
1-59 financial and other commitments as part of a grant application.

1-60 (h) The commissioner shall:

1-61 (1) establish guidelines for implementing the grant
1-62 program; and

1-63 (2) adopt rules necessary to administer the grant

2-1 program.

2-2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-6 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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