

1-1 By: Gallegos S.B. No. 2357
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 23, 2009,
1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;
1-5 April 23, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the curriculum that must be provided by a disciplinary
1-9 alternative education program.

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

1-11 SECTION 1. Subsections (a) and (1), Section 37.008,
1-12 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-13 (a) Each school district shall provide a disciplinary
1-14 alternative education program that:

1-15 (1) is provided in a setting other than a student's
1-16 regular classroom;

1-17 (2) is located on or off of a regular school campus;

1-18 (3) provides for the students who are assigned to the
1-19 disciplinary alternative education program to be separated from
1-20 students who are not assigned to the program;

1-21 (4) provides structured courses in [focuses on]
1-22 English language arts, mathematics, science, history, and
1-23 self-discipline that are equivalent in content and rigor to courses
1-24 in those subjects as provided in the regular classroom setting;

1-25 (5) provides for students' educational and behavioral
1-26 needs;

1-27 (6) provides supervision and counseling;

1-28 (7) employs only teachers who meet all certification
1-29 requirements established under Subchapter B, Chapter 21; ~~and~~

1-30 (8) provides not less than the minimum amount of
1-31 instructional time per day required by Section 25.082(a); and

1-32 (9) provides an established curriculum for each grade
1-33 level that provides students an opportunity to achieve promotion to
1-34 the next grade level or to graduate from high school on the same
1-35 schedule as students in the regular classroom setting.

1-36 (1) A school district is required to provide in the
1-37 district's disciplinary alternative education program a course
1-38 necessary to fulfill a student's high school graduation
1-39 requirements ~~[only as provided by this subsection]~~. A school
1-40 district shall offer a student removed to a disciplinary
1-41 alternative education program an opportunity to complete
1-42 coursework before the beginning of the next school year. The school
1-43 district may provide the student an opportunity to complete
1-44 coursework through any method available, including a
1-45 correspondence course, distance learning, or summer school. The
1-46 district may not charge the student for a course provided under this
1-47 subsection.

1-48 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
1-49 school year.

1-50 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-51 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-52 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-53 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-54 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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