

1-1 By: Branch (Senate Sponsor - Shapiro) H.B. No. 2909
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 11, 2011;
1-3 April 26, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 20, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;
1-6 May 20, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2909 By: Shapiro

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to increasing awareness in this state of the importance of
1-11 higher education.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 29.911, Education Code,
1-14 is amended to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 29.911. GENERATION TEXAS [~~"EDUCATION: GO GET IT"~~]
1-16 WEEK.

1-17 SECTION 2. Sections 29.911(a) and (b), Education Code, are
1-18 amended to read as follows:

1-19 (a) To educate middle school, junior high school, and high
1-20 school students about the importance of higher education, each
1-21 school district and each open-enrollment charter school offering
1-22 any of those grade levels shall designate one week during the school
1-23 year as Generation Texas [~~"Education: Go Get It"~~] Week.

1-24 (b) During the designated week, each middle school, junior
1-25 high school, and high school shall provide students with
1-26 comprehensive grade-appropriate information regarding the pursuit
1-27 of higher education. The information provided must include
1-28 information regarding:

1-29 (1) higher education options available to students;

1-30 (2) standard admission requirements for institutions
1-31 of higher education, including:

1-32 (A) overall high school grade point average;

1-33 (B) required curriculum; ~~and~~

1-34 (C) college readiness standards and expectations
1-35 as determined under Section 28.008; and

1-36 (D) scores necessary on generally recognized
1-37 tests or assessment instruments used in admissions determinations,
1-38 including the Scholastic Assessment Test and the American College
1-39 Test;

1-40 (3) automatic admission of certain students to general
1-41 academic teaching institutions as provided by Section 51.803; and

1-42 (4) financial aid availability and requirements,
1-43 including the financial aid information provided by counselors
1-44 under Section 33.007(b).

1-45 SECTION 3. Section 61.076(c), Education Code, is amended to
1-46 read as follows:

1-47 (c) The co-chairs may appoint six [~~three~~] additional
1-48 members who are education professionals, agency representatives,
1-49 business representatives, or other members of the community.
1-50 Members appointed to the council under this subsection serve
1-51 two-year terms expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

1-52 SECTION 4. Section 61.9701(b), Education Code, is amended
1-53 to read as follows:

1-54 (b) The campaign must [~~may~~] include the provision of
1-55 information on:

1-56 (1) the benefits of obtaining a postsecondary
1-57 education;

1-58 (2) the types of institutions of higher education and
1-59 degree programs available;

1-60 (3) the academic preparation needed to successfully
1-61 pursue a postsecondary education as determined under Section 28.008
1-62 and any other requirements for enrollment at an institution of
1-63 higher education; and

2-1 (4) how to obtain financial aid and what forms of
2-2 financial aid are available.

2-3 SECTION 5. Section 61.9703, Education Code, is amended to
2-4 read as follows:

2-5 Sec. 61.9703. COORDINATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES [~~AGENCIES~~].
2-6 The board shall [~~may~~] coordinate with the Texas Education Agency,
2-7 the P-16 Council established under Section 61.076, and other
2-8 appropriate entities, including regional P-16 councils and
2-9 businesses, to [~~agencies as necessary to develop and~~] implement the
2-10 public awareness campaign.

2-11 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-15 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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