

By: Gallegos

S.B. No. 346

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the curriculum that must be provided by a disciplinary  
3 alternative education program.

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

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

7 (a) Each school district shall provide a disciplinary  
8 alternative education program that:

9 (1) is provided in a setting other than a student's  
10 regular classroom;

11 (2) is located on or off of a regular school campus;

12 (3) provides for the students who are assigned to the  
13 disciplinary alternative education program to be separated from  
14 students who are not assigned to the program;

15 (4) focuses on English language arts, mathematics,  
16 science, history, and self-discipline;

17 (5) provides for students' educational and behavioral  
18 needs;

19 (6) provides supervision and counseling;

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

22 (8) provides not less than the minimum amount of  
23 instructional time per day required by Section 25.082(a); and

24 (9) provides for students who are assigned to the

1 disciplinary alternative education program for one semester or  
2 more:

3 (A) structured courses in English language arts,  
4 mathematics, science, history, and self-discipline that are  
5 equivalent in content and rigor to courses in those subjects as  
6 provided in the regular classroom setting; and

7 (B) an established curriculum for each grade  
8 level that provides students an opportunity to achieve promotion to  
9 the next grade level or to graduate from high school on the same  
10 schedule as students in the regular classroom setting.

11 (1) A school district is required to provide in the  
12 district's disciplinary alternative education program a course  
13 necessary to fulfill a student's high school graduation  
14 requirements [~~only as provided by this subsection~~]. A school  
15 district shall offer a student removed to a disciplinary  
16 alternative education program an opportunity to complete  
17 coursework before the beginning of the next school year. The school  
18 district may provide the student an opportunity to complete  
19 coursework through any method available, including a  
20 correspondence course, distance learning, or summer school. The  
21 district may not charge the student for a course provided under this  
22 subsection.

23 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2011-2012  
24 school year.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.