

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 975

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the operation of dropout recovery programs by certain public junior colleges in partnership with school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL DISTRICT
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM TO PROVIDE DROPOUT RECOVERY

Sec. 29.401. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies only to a public junior college, as defined by Section 61.003, located in a county:

- (1) with a population of 750,000 or more; and
- (2) with less than 65 percent of the population 25 years and older having graduated from high school, according to the most recent American Community Survey five-year estimates compiled by the United States Census Bureau.

(b) The application of this subchapter to a public junior college is not affected if, after the public junior college enters into a partnership and begins providing a dropout recovery program as provided by this subchapter, the county's demographics under Subsection (a)(2) change and the county no longer meets the requirements under Subsection (a)(2).

Sec. 29.402. PARTNERSHIP. (a) A public junior college may partner with one or more school districts located in the public

1 junior college district to provide on the campus of the public
2 junior college a dropout recovery program for students described by
3 Subsection (b).

4 (b) A person who is under 26 years of age is eligible to
5 enroll in a dropout recovery program under this subchapter if the
6 person:

7 (1) must complete not more than three course credits
8 to complete the curriculum requirements for the minimum,
9 recommended, or advanced high school program, as appropriate, for
10 high school graduation; or

11 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on an
12 end-of-course assessment instrument administered under Section
13 39.023(c) or an assessment instrument administered under Section
14 39.023(c) as that section existed before amendment by Chapter 1312
15 (S.B. 1031), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

16 (c) A public junior college under this section shall:

17 (1) design a dropout recovery curriculum that includes
18 career and technology education courses in collaboration with one
19 or more school districts located in the public junior college
20 district; and

21 (2) offer advanced academic and transition
22 opportunities, including dual credit courses and college
23 preparatory courses, such as advanced placement courses.

24 Sec. 29.403. FINANCING. (a) A public junior college
25 district may receive for each student enrolled in a dropout
26 recovery program under this subchapter an amount equal to the total
27 average per student funding amount in the school district the

1 student would otherwise attend school during the preceding school
2 year for maintenance and operations, including state and local
3 funding, but excluding money from the available school fund.

4 (b) A student who is enrolled in a program under this
5 subchapter is included in determining the average daily attendance
6 under Section 42.005 of the school district in which the student
7 would otherwise attend school.

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