

1-1 By: Hinojosa, Lucio S.B. No. 975  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 25, 2011; March 8, 2011,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;  
1-4 May 9, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 9, 2011, sent  
1-6 to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 975 By: Seliger

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

1-10 relating to the operation of dropout recovery programs by certain  
1-11 public junior colleges in partnership with school districts.

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

1-13 SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding  
1-14 Subchapter K to read as follows:

1-15 SUBCHAPTER K. PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1-16 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM TO PROVIDE DROPOUT RECOVERY

1-17 Sec. 29.401. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies  
1-18 only to a public junior college, as defined by Section 61.003,  
1-19 located in a county:

1-20 (1) with a population of 750,000 or more; and

1-21 (2) with less than 65 percent of the population 25  
1-22 years and older having graduated from high school, according to the  
1-23 most recent American Community Survey five-year estimates compiled  
1-24 by the United States Census Bureau.

1-25 (b) The application of this subchapter to a public junior  
1-26 college is not affected if, after the public junior college enters  
1-27 into a partnership and begins providing a dropout recovery program  
1-28 as provided by this subchapter, the county's demographics under  
1-29 Subsection (a)(2) change and the county no longer meets the  
1-30 requirements under Subsection (a)(2).

1-31 (c) This subchapter applies only to a school district with a  
1-32 dropout rate that is higher than 15 percent. The application of  
1-33 this subchapter to a district is not affected if, after the district  
1-34 enters into a partnership as provided by this subchapter, the  
1-35 district's dropout rate changes and the district no longer meets  
1-36 the requirements under this subsection.

1-37 (d) This section expires September 1, 2013.

1-38 Sec. 29.402. PARTNERSHIP. (a) Beginning September 1,  
1-39 2012, a public junior college may enter into an articulation  
1-40 agreement to partner with one or more school districts located in  
1-41 the public junior college district to provide on the campus of the  
1-42 public junior college a dropout recovery program for students  
1-43 described by Subsection (b) to successfully complete and receive a  
1-44 diploma from a high school of the appropriate partnering school  
1-45 district.

1-46 (b) A person who is under 26 years of age is eligible to  
1-47 enroll in a dropout recovery program under this subchapter if the  
1-48 person:

1-49 (1) must complete not more than three course credits  
1-50 to complete the curriculum requirements for the minimum,  
1-51 recommended, or advanced high school program, as appropriate, for  
1-52 high school graduation; or

1-53 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on an  
1-54 end-of-course assessment instrument administered under Section  
1-55 39.023(c) or an assessment instrument administered under Section  
1-56 39.023(c) as that section existed before amendment by Chapter 1312  
1-57 (S.B. 1031), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

1-58 (c) A public junior college under this section shall:

1-59 (1) design a dropout recovery curriculum that includes  
1-60 career and technology education courses that lead to industry or  
1-61 career certification;

1-62 (2) integrate into the dropout recovery curriculum  
1-63 research-based strategies to assist students in becoming able

2-1 academically to pursue postsecondary education, including:

2-2 (A) high quality, college readiness instruction  
2-3 with strong academic and social supports;

2-4 (B) secondary to postsecondary bridging that  
2-5 builds college readiness skills, provides a plan for college  
2-6 completion, and ensures transition counseling; and

2-7 (C) information concerning appropriate supports  
2-8 available in the first year of postsecondary enrollment to ensure  
2-9 postsecondary persistence and success, to the extent funds are  
2-10 available for the purpose;

2-11 (3) offer advanced academic and transition  
2-12 opportunities, including dual credit courses and college  
2-13 preparatory courses, such as advanced placement courses; and

2-14 (4) coordinate with each partnering school district to  
2-15 provide in the articulation agreement that the district retains  
2-16 accountability for student attendance, student completion of high  
2-17 school course requirements, and student performance on assessment  
2-18 instruments as necessary for the student to receive a diploma from a  
2-19 high school of the partnering school district.

2-20 (d) A dropout recovery program provided under this  
2-21 subchapter must comply with the requirements of Sections 29.081(e)  
2-22 and (f).

2-23 Sec. 29.403. FINANCING. (a) A public junior college  
2-24 district may receive from each partnering school district for each  
2-25 student from that district enrolled in a dropout recovery program  
2-26 under this subchapter an amount negotiated between the junior  
2-27 college district and that partnering district not to exceed the  
2-28 total average per student funding amount in that district during  
2-29 the preceding school year for maintenance and operations, including  
2-30 state and local funding, but excluding money from the available  
2-31 school fund.

2-32 (b) A student who is enrolled in a program under this  
2-33 subchapter is included in determining the average daily attendance  
2-34 under Section 42.005 of the partnering school district.

2-35 Sec. 29.404. OTHER FUNDING. (a) To the extent consistent  
2-36 with the General Appropriations Act, a public junior college under  
2-37 this subchapter is eligible to receive dropout prevention and  
2-38 intervention program funds appropriated to the agency.

2-39 (b) A public junior college under this subchapter may  
2-40 receive gifts, grants, and donations to use for the purposes of this  
2-41 subchapter.

2-42 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-43 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-44 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-45 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-46 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

2-47 \* \* \* \* \*