

1-1 By: Rodriguez of Travis, et al. H.B. No. 617
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 24, 2013;
 1-4 April 25, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Education; May 10, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-6 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 10, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15			X	
1-16			X	
1-17	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to transition and employment services for public school
 1-21 students enrolled in special education programs.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 29.011, Education Code, is amended to
 1-24 read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 29.011. TRANSITION PLANNING. (a) The commissioner
 1-26 shall by rule adopt procedures for compliance with federal
 1-27 requirements relating to transition services for students who are
 1-28 enrolled in special education programs under this subchapter. The
 1-29 procedures must specify the manner in which a student's admission,
 1-30 review, and dismissal committee must consider, and if appropriate,
 1-31 address the following issues in the student's individualized
 1-32 education program:

1-33 (1) appropriate student involvement in the student's
 1-34 transition to life outside the public school system;

1-35 (2) if the student is younger than 18 years of age,
 1-36 appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition;

1-37 (3) if the student is at least 18 years of age,
 1-38 appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition, if
 1-39 the parent is invited to participate by the student or the school
 1-40 district in which the student is enrolled;

1-41 (4) any postsecondary education options;

1-42 (5) a functional vocational evaluation;

1-43 (6) employment goals and objectives;

1-44 (7) if the student is at least 18 years of age, the
 1-45 availability of age-appropriate instructional environments;

1-46 (8) independent living goals and objectives; and

1-47 (9) appropriate circumstances for referring a student
 1-48 or the student's parents to a governmental agency for services.

1-49 (b) The commissioner shall require each school district or
 1-50 shared services arrangement to designate at least one employee to
 1-51 serve as the district's or shared services arrangement's designee
 1-52 on transition and employment services for students enrolled in
 1-53 special education programs under this subchapter. The commissioner
 1-54 shall develop minimum training guidelines for a district's or
 1-55 shared services arrangement's designee. An individual designated
 1-56 under this subsection must provide information and resources about
 1-57 effective transition planning and services and interagency
 1-58 coordination to ensure that local school staff communicate and
 1-59 collaborate with:

1-60 (1) students enrolled in special education programs
 1-61 under this subchapter and the parents of those students; and

