

1-1 By: Johnson, Anchia, Sheets (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 1122
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2013;
 1-3 May 9, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Education; May 14, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 14, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
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 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to a pilot program for a three-year high school diploma
 1-20 plan and cost-neutral expansion of full-day prekindergarten
 1-21 programs.

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

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
 1-24 amended by adding Section 28.0255 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 28.0255. PILOT PROGRAM: THREE-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL
 1-26 DIPLOMA PLAN. (a) In this section, "certificate program," "public
 1-27 junior college," "public state college," and "public technical
 1-28 institute" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

1-29 (b) This section applies only to a school district:

1-30 (1) with an enrollment of more than 150,000 students;

1-31 and

1-32 (2) located primarily in a county that has a
 1-33 population of 2.2 million or more and that is adjacent to a county
 1-34 with a population of more than 600,000.

1-35 (c) A school district to which this section applies may
 1-36 develop and implement a pilot program for students who wish to
 1-37 obtain a high school diploma after completion of three years of
 1-38 secondary school attendance as an alternative to the traditional
 1-39 four-year period of attendance. The program must:

1-40 (1) be designed to serve the educational needs of
 1-41 students who do not anticipate immediate enrollment in a four-year
 1-42 college or university after graduation from high school; and

1-43 (2) include partnerships between the school district
 1-44 and public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public
 1-45 state colleges, and any other public postsecondary institutions in
 1-46 this state offering academic or technical education or vocational
 1-47 training under a certificate program or an associate degree program
 1-48 to facilitate the prompt enrollment of students in those
 1-49 institutions after high school graduation under the program.

1-50 (d) Participation by a student in the program must be
 1-51 voluntary, with approval of the student's parent. A student who
 1-52 agrees to participate in the program may, on request, discontinue
 1-53 participation and resume taking courses under a high school program
 1-54 based on a traditional four-year period of attendance.

1-55 (e) Notwithstanding Section 28.025, the school district
 1-56 shall specify the curriculum requirements for receiving a high
 1-57 school diploma under the program. The curriculum requirements must
 1-58 ensure that a student who graduates under the program possesses
 1-59 sufficient knowledge and skills in English language arts and
 1-60 mathematics to be capable of performing successfully in public
 1-61 junior college-level courses.

2-1 (f) The school district shall submit the proposed
2-2 curriculum requirements to the State Board of Education for comment
2-3 and the commissioner for approval. The district may not implement
2-4 the program before obtaining the commissioner's approval of the
2-5 proposed curriculum requirements.

2-6 (g) A student is entitled to a high school diploma if the
2-7 student:

2-8 (1) successfully complies with the curriculum
2-9 requirements specified under Subsection (e); and

2-10 (2) performs satisfactorily, as determined by the
2-11 commissioner under Subsection (h), on end-of-course assessment
2-12 instruments listed under Section 39.023(c) for courses in which the
2-13 student was enrolled.

2-14 (h) For purposes of Subsection (g)(2), the commissioner
2-15 shall determine the level of satisfactory performance on applicable
2-16 end-of-course assessment instruments administered to a student.

2-17 (i) The school district shall report the academic
2-18 achievement record of students who have completed the program on a
2-19 transcript that clearly identifies the program and distinguishes
2-20 the program from the other high school programs based on a
2-21 traditional four-year period of attendance.

2-22 (j) A student who has received a diploma under the program
2-23 is exempt from the compulsory school attendance requirements under
2-24 Section 25.085.

2-25 (k) To the extent this section conflicts with any other
2-26 provision of this code or rule adopted under this code, this section
2-27 prevails.

2-28 (l) This section expires September 1, 2023.

2-29 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 42, Education Code, is
2-30 amended by adding Section 42.2526 to read as follows:

2-31 Sec. 42.2526. ADJUSTMENT FOR DISTRICT OPERATING PILOT
2-32 PROGRAM. (a) This section applies only to a school district
2-33 operating a pilot program authorized by Section 28.0255.

2-34 (b) Beginning with the first school year that follows the
2-35 first school year in which students receive high school diplomas
2-36 under the pilot program authorized by Section 28.0255 and
2-37 continuing for every subsequent school year that the district
2-38 operates the pilot program, the commissioner shall provide funding
2-39 for the district's prekindergarten program under Section 29.153 on
2-40 a full-day basis for a number of prekindergarten students equal to
2-41 twice the number of students who received a high school diploma
2-42 under the pilot program authorized by Section 28.0255 during the
2-43 preceding school year.

2-44 (c) This section expires September 1, 2023.

2-45 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

2-46 * * * * *