

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 2540

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to public school accountability, including assessment and curriculum requirements.

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

SECTION 1. Section 7.062(e), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The rules must:

(1) limit the amount of assistance provided through a grant to not more than:

(A) for a construction project, \$200 per square foot of the science laboratory to be constructed; or

(B) for a renovation project, \$100 per square foot of the science laboratory to be renovated;

(2) require a school district to demonstrate, as a condition of eligibility for a grant, that the existing district science laboratories are insufficient in number to comply with the curriculum requirements imposed for the foundation [~~recommended and advanced~~] high school program [~~programs~~] under Section 28.025 [~~28.025(b-1)(1)~~]; and

(3) provide for ranking school districts that apply for grants on the basis of wealth per student and giving priority in the award of grants to districts with low wealth per student.

SECTION 2. Section 18.006(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 (b) In addition to other factors determined to be
2 appropriate by the commissioner, the accountability system must
3 include consideration of:

4 (1) student performance on the end-of-course
5 assessment instruments required by Section 39.025 [~~39.023(c)~~]; and

6 (2) dropout rates, including dropout rates and diploma
7 program completion rates for the grade levels served by the diploma
8 program.

9 SECTION 3. Sections 28.014(a), (b), (c), and (f), Education
10 Code, are amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The commissioner of education and the commissioner of
12 higher education shall develop and recommend to the State Board of
13 Education for adoption under Section 28.002 the essential knowledge
14 and skills of courses in college preparatory mathematics, science,
15 social studies, and English language arts. The courses must be
16 designed:

17 (1) for students at the 12th grade level who do not
18 meet college readiness standards on an end-of-course assessment
19 instrument required under Section 39.025(a) [~~39.023(c)~~]; and

20 (2) to prepare students for success in entry-level
21 college courses.

22 (b) A student who successfully completes a course developed
23 under this section may use the credit earned in the course toward
24 satisfying the applicable mathematics or science curriculum
25 requirement for the foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high
26 school program under Section 28.025.

27 (c) The agency, in consultation with the Texas Higher

1 Education Coordinating Board, shall adopt an end-of-course
2 assessment instrument for each course developed under this section
3 to ensure the rigor of the course. A school district shall, in
4 accordance with State Board of Education rules, administer the
5 end-of-course assessment instrument to a student enrolled in a
6 course developed under this section. A ~~[Each]~~ school district may
7 ~~[shall]~~ adopt a policy that requires a student's performance on the
8 end-of-course assessment instrument to be considered in
9 determining ~~[account for 15 percent of]~~ the student's final grade
10 for the course. ~~[A student's performance on an end-of-course~~
11 ~~assessment instrument administered under this subsection may be~~
12 ~~used, on a scale of 0-40, in calculating whether the student~~
13 ~~satisfies the graduation requirements established under Section~~
14 ~~39.025.]~~

15 (f) To the extent applicable, the commissioner shall draw
16 from curricula and instructional materials developed under Section
17 ~~[Sections]~~ 28.008 ~~[and 61.0763]~~ in developing a course and related
18 instructional materials under this section. Not later than
19 September 1, 2010, the State Board of Education shall adopt
20 essential knowledge and skills for each course developed under this
21 section. The State Board of Education shall make each course
22 developed under this section and the related instructional
23 materials available to school districts not later than the
24 2014-2015 school year. ~~[As required by Subsection (c), a school~~
25 ~~district shall adopt a policy requiring a student's performance on~~
26 ~~an end-of-course assessment instrument administered under that~~
27 ~~subsection to account for 15 percent of the student's grade for a~~

1 ~~course developed under this section not later than the 2014-2015~~
2 ~~school year.]~~ This subsection expires September 1, 2015.

3 SECTION 4. Section 28.025, Education Code, is amended by
4 amending Subsections (a), (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-3), (b-4), (b-5),
5 (b-7), (b-9), (b-10), (b-11), and (e) and adding Subsections
6 (b-12), (c-1), (e-1), (h), and (h-1) to read as follows:

7 (a) The State Board of Education by rule shall determine
8 curriculum requirements for the foundation [~~minimum, recommended,~~
9 ~~and advanced~~] high school program [~~programs~~] that are consistent
10 with the required curriculum under Section 28.002. The [~~Subject to~~
11 ~~Subsection (b-1), the~~] State Board of Education shall designate the
12 specific courses in the foundation curriculum under Section
13 28.002(a)(1) as required under [~~for a student participating in~~
14 the foundation [~~minimum, recommended, or advanced~~] high school
15 program. Except as provided by this section [~~Subsection (b-1)~~],
16 the State Board of Education may not designate a specific course or
17 a specific number of credits in the enrichment curriculum as
18 requirements for the [~~recommended~~] program.

19 (b) A school district shall ensure that each student enrolls
20 in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements
21 identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a) for
22 the foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program and,
23 to the greatest extent practicable, other courses that include
24 mathematics or science [~~unless the student, the student's parent or~~
25 ~~other person standing in parental relation to the student, and a~~
26 ~~school counselor or school administrator agree in writing signed by~~
27 ~~each party that the student should be permitted to take courses~~

1 ~~under the minimum high school program and the student:~~

2 ~~[(1) is at least 16 years of age;~~

3 ~~[(2) has completed two credits required for graduation~~
4 ~~in each subject of the foundation curriculum under Section~~
5 ~~28.002(a)(1); or~~

6 ~~[(3) has failed to be promoted to the tenth grade one~~
7 ~~or more times as determined by the school district].~~

8 (b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require
9 that [÷

10 ~~[(1) except as provided by Subsection (b-2),]~~ the
11 curriculum requirements for the foundation ~~[recommended and~~
12 ~~advanced]~~ high school program ~~[programs]~~ under Subsection (a)
13 include a requirement that students successfully complete:

14 (1) [(A)] four credits in English language arts [each
15 ~~subject of the foundation curriculum]~~ under Section
16 28.002(a)(1)(A), including one credit in English I, one credit in
17 English II, one credit in English III, and one credit in an advanced
18 English course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

19 (2) three credits in mathematics under Section
20 28.002(a)(1)(B), including one credit in Algebra I, one credit in
21 geometry, and one credit in any advanced mathematics course
22 authorized under Subsection (b-2);

23 (3) two credits in science under Section
24 28.002(a)(1)(C), which may be satisfied through a course in
25 biology, integrated physics and chemistry, or any advanced science
26 course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

27 (4) three credits in social studies under Section

1 28.002(a)(1)(D) [~~28.002(a)(1)~~], including one credit in world
2 geography, one credit in United States history, and at least
3 one-half credit in government and at least one-half credit in
4 economics [~~to meet the social studies requirement~~];

5 (5) except as provided under Subsection (b-12)
6 [~~(B) for the recommended high school program~~], two credits in the
7 same language in a language other than English under Section
8 28.002(a)(2)(A) based on courses that emphasize fluency in speaking
9 [~~and, for the advanced high school program, three credits in the~~
10 ~~same language in a language other than English under Section~~
11 ~~28.002(a)(2)(A)~~]; [and]

12 (6) eight [~~(C) for the recommended high school~~
13 ~~program, six~~] elective credits [~~and, for the advanced high school~~
14 ~~program, five elective credits~~];

15 (7) [~~(2) one or more credits offered in the required~~
16 ~~curriculum for the recommended and advanced high school programs~~
17 ~~include a research writing component, and~~

18 [~~(3) the curriculum requirements for the minimum,~~
19 ~~recommended, and advanced high school programs under Subsection (a)~~
20 ~~include a requirement that students successfully complete:~~

21 [~~(A)~~] one credit in fine arts under Section
22 28.002(a)(2)(D); and

23 (8) one credit in health under Section 28.002(a)(2)(B)
24 or, [~~(B)~~] except as provided by Subsection (b-11), one credit in
25 physical education under Section 28.002(a)(2)(C).

26 (b-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
27 Board of Education shall provide for [~~allow~~] a student to comply

1 with the curriculum requirements for an advanced English course
2 under Subsection (b-1)(1) taken after successful completion of
3 English I, English II, and English III, for an advanced [a]
4 mathematics course under Subsection (b-1)(2) [(b-1)(1)] taken
5 after the successful completion of Algebra I and geometry, and for
6 an advanced [either after the successful completion of or
7 concurrently with Algebra II or a] science course under Subsection
8 (b-1)(3) [(b-1)(1) taken after the successful completion of biology
9 and chemistry and either after the successful completion of or
10 concurrently with physics] by successfully completing a course in
11 the appropriate content area that has been approved as an advanced
12 course by board rule. To be approved as an advanced mathematics
13 course under this subsection, the mathematics course must be
14 rigorous and have postsecondary application, including application
15 in postsecondary education or training or in the workplace [career
16 and technical course designated by the State Board of Education as
17 containing substantively similar and rigorous academic content. A
18 student may use the option provided by this subsection for not more
19 than two courses].

20 (b-3) In adopting rules for purposes of Subsection (b-2) [to
21 provide students with the option described by Subsection
22 (b-1)(1)(A)], the State Board of Education must approve a variety
23 of advanced English, mathematics, and science courses that may be
24 taken [~~after the completion of Algebra II and physics~~] to comply
25 with the foundation high school [recommended] program
26 requirements.

27 (b-4) A school district may offer the curriculum described

1 in Subsections (b-1)(1) through (4) [~~Subsection (b-1)(1)(A)~~] in an
2 applied manner. Courses delivered in an applied manner must cover
3 the essential knowledge and skills, and the student shall be
4 administered the applicable end-of-course assessment instrument as
5 provided by Sections 39.023(c) and 39.025.

6 (b-5) A school district may offer a mathematics or science
7 course to be taken by a student after completion of Algebra II and
8 physics [~~to comply with the recommended program requirements in~~
9 ~~Subsection (b-1)(1)(A)~~]. A course approved under this subsection
10 must be endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course
11 for which the institution would award course credit or as a
12 prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award
13 course credit.

14 (b-7) The State Board of Education, in coordination with the
15 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall adopt rules to
16 ensure that a student may comply with the curriculum requirements
17 under the foundation [~~minimum, recommended, or advanced~~] high
18 school program for each subject of the foundation curriculum under
19 Section 28.002(a)(1) and for languages other than English under
20 Section 28.002(a)(2)(A) by successfully completing appropriate
21 courses in the core curriculum of an institution of higher
22 education under Section 61.822.

23 (b-9) The agency shall establish a pilot program allowing a
24 student attending school in a county with a population of more than
25 one million and in which more than 75 percent of the population
26 resides in a single municipality to satisfy the fine arts credit
27 required under Subsection (b-1)(7) [~~(b-1)(3)(A)~~] by participating

1 in a fine arts program not provided by the school district in which
2 the student is enrolled. The fine arts program may be provided on
3 or off a school campus and outside the regular school day. [~~Not~~
4 ~~later than December 1, 2010, the agency shall provide to the~~
5 ~~legislature a report regarding the pilot program, including the~~
6 ~~feasibility of expanding the pilot program statewide.~~]

7 (b-10) A school district, with the approval of the
8 commissioner, may allow a student to comply with the curriculum
9 requirements for a [~~the~~] physical education credit [~~required~~] under
10 Subsection (b-1)(8) [~~(b-1)(3)(B)~~] by participating in a private or
11 commercially sponsored physical activity program provided on or off
12 a school campus and outside the regular school day.

13 (b-11) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
14 Board of Education shall allow a student who is unable to
15 participate in physical activity due to disability or illness to
16 substitute one credit in English language arts,
17 mathematics, science, or social studies or one academic elective
18 credit for a [~~the~~] physical education credit [~~required~~] under
19 Subsection (b-1)(8) [~~(b-1)(3)(B)~~]. A credit allowed to be
20 substituted under this subsection may not also be used by the
21 student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion
22 of the physical education credit. The rules must provide that the
23 determination regarding a student's ability to participate in
24 physical activity will be made by:

25 (1) if the student receives special education services
26 under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the student's admission, review,
27 and dismissal committee;

1 (2) if the student does not receive special education
2 services under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, but is covered by Section
3 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), the
4 committee established for the student under that Act; or

5 (3) if each of the committees described by
6 Subdivisions (1) and (2) is inapplicable, a committee established
7 by the school district of persons with appropriate knowledge
8 regarding the student.

9 (b-12) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
10 Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student to comply
11 with the curriculum requirements for the two credits in a language
12 other than English required under Subsection (b-1)(5) by
13 substituting two credits earned for successful completion of other
14 courses that, based on scientific research, are determined to be
15 relevant to future careers.

16 (c-1) A student may earn an endorsement on the student's
17 diploma and transcript if the student successfully completes at
18 least four courses among the courses authorized for that
19 endorsement by the State Board of Education by rule. The school
20 district in which a student attends school shall provide for
21 advising students concerning course options within an endorsement
22 category, giving consideration to preparation and requirements for
23 higher education. An endorsement under this subsection may be
24 earned in any of the following categories:

25 (1) science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
26 (STEM), which includes courses directly related to advanced
27 sciences, including environmental systems, technology,

1 engineering, and advanced mathematics;

2 (2) business and industry, which includes courses
3 directly related to database management, information technology,
4 communications, accounting, finance, marketing, graphic design,
5 architecture, construction, welding, logistics, automotive
6 technology, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning;

7 (3) human services, which includes courses directly
8 related to health sciences and occupations, education and law,
9 culinary arts and hospitality, and agricultural science; and

10 (4) humanities, which includes courses directly
11 related to political science, world languages, cultural studies,
12 English literature, history, and fine arts.

13 (e) Each school district shall report the academic
14 achievement record of students who have completed the foundation [~~a~~
15 ~~minimum, recommended, or advanced~~] high school program on
16 transcript forms adopted by the State Board of Education. The
17 transcript forms adopted by the board must be designed to clearly
18 [~~differentiate between each of the high school programs and~~]
19 identify whether a student received a diploma or a certificate of
20 coursework completion.

21 (e-1) A school district shall clearly indicate an
22 endorsement described by Subsection (c-1) on the diploma and
23 transcript of a student who satisfies the applicable requirements.
24 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to
25 administer this subsection.

26 (h) The commissioner by rule shall adopt a transition plan
27 to implement and administer the amendments made by __. B. No. __,

1 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, replacing the minimum,
2 recommended, and advanced high school programs with the foundation
3 high school program beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.
4 Under the transition plan, a student who entered the ninth grade
5 before the 2013-2014 school year must be permitted to complete the
6 curriculum requirements required for high school graduation under:

7 (1) the foundation high school program, if the student
8 makes the choice during the 2013-2014 school year to take courses
9 under this program;

10 (2) the minimum high school program, as that program
11 existed before the adoption of __.B. No. __, 83rd Legislature,
12 Regular Session, 2013, if the student was participating in that
13 program before the 2013-2014 school year;

14 (3) the recommended high school program, as that
15 program existed before the adoption of __.B. No. __, 83rd
16 Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, if the student was
17 participating in that program before the 2013-2014 school year; or

18 (4) the advanced high school program, as that program
19 existed before the adoption of __.B. No. __, 83rd Legislature,
20 Regular Session, 2013, if the student was participating in that
21 program before the 2013-2014 school year.

22 (h-1) This subsection and Subsection (h) expire September
23 1, 2017.

24 SECTION 5. Section 28.0253(e), Education Code, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 (e) A student who receives a high school diploma through the
27 pilot program is considered to have completed the foundation

1 ~~[recommended]~~ high school program adopted under Section 28.025
2 ~~[28.025(a)]~~. The student is not guaranteed admission to any
3 institution of higher education or to any academic program at an
4 institution of higher education solely on the basis of having
5 received the diploma through the program.

6 SECTION 6. Section 28.027(b), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (b) The State Board of Education shall establish a process
9 under which an applied STEM course may be reviewed and approved for
10 purposes of satisfying the mathematics and science curriculum
11 requirements for the foundation ~~[recommended]~~ high school program
12 ~~[imposed]~~ under Section 28.025 ~~[28.025(b-1)(1)(A)]~~ through
13 substitution of the applied STEM course for a specific mathematics
14 or science course otherwise required or authorized under the
15 foundation ~~[recommended]~~ high school program ~~[and completed during~~
16 ~~the student's fourth year of mathematics or science course work.~~
17 ~~The State Board of Education may only approve a course to substitute~~
18 ~~for a mathematics course taken after successful completion of~~
19 ~~Algebra I and geometry and after successful completion of or~~
20 ~~concurrently with Algebra II. The State Board of Education may only~~
21 ~~approve a course to substitute for a science course taken after~~
22 ~~successful completion of biology and chemistry and after successful~~
23 ~~completion of or concurrently with physics].~~

24 SECTION 7. Section 29.0821(a), Education Code, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 (a) A school district may provide a flexible year program
27 for students who did not or are likely not to perform successfully

1 on an assessment instrument required [~~administered~~] under Section
2 39.023(a), (b), (l), or (n) or 39.025(a) [~~39.023~~] or who would not
3 otherwise be promoted to the next grade level.

4 SECTION 8. Section 29.096(e), Education Code, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (e) The commissioner shall establish minimum standards for
7 a local collaborative agreement, including a requirement that the
8 agreement must be signed by an authorized school district or
9 open-enrollment charter school officer and an authorized
10 representative of each of the other participating entities that is
11 a partner in the collaboration. The program must:

12 (1) limit participation in the program to students
13 authorized to participate by a parent or other person standing in
14 parental relationship;

15 (2) have as a primary goal graduation from high school
16 [~~under at least the recommended high school program~~];

17 (3) provide for local businesses or other employers to
18 offer paid employment or internship opportunities and advanced
19 career and vocational training;

20 (4) include an outreach component and a lead
21 educational staff member to identify and involve eligible students
22 and public and private entities in participating in the program;

23 (5) serve a population of students of which at least 50
24 percent are identified as students at risk of dropping out of
25 school, as described by Section 29.081(d);

26 (6) allocate not more than 15 percent of grant funds
27 and matching funds, as determined by the commissioner, to

1 administrative expenses;

2 (7) include matching funds from any of the
3 participating entities; and

4 (8) include any other requirements as determined by
5 the council.

6 SECTION 9. Section 29.402(b), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

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

11 (1) must complete not more than three course credits
12 to complete the curriculum requirements for the foundation
13 [~~minimum, recommended, or advanced~~] high school program[~~, as~~
14 ~~appropriate,~~] for high school graduation; or

15 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on an
16 end-of-course assessment instrument required [~~administered~~] under
17 Section 39.025 [~~39.023(c)~~] or an assessment instrument
18 administered under Section 39.023(c) as that section existed before
19 amendment by Chapter 1312 (S.B. 1031), Acts of the 80th
20 Legislature, Regular Session, 2007.

21 SECTION 10. Section 29.904(d), Education Code, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 (d) A plan developed under this section:

24 (1) must establish clear, achievable goals for
25 increasing the percentage of the school district's graduating
26 seniors, particularly the graduating seniors attending a high
27 school described by Subsection (a), who enroll in an institution of

1 higher education for the academic year following graduation;

2 (2) must establish an accurate method of measuring
3 progress toward the goals established under Subdivision (1) that
4 may include the percentage of district high school students and the
5 percentage of students attending a district high school described
6 by Subsection (a) who:

7 (A) are enrolled in a course for which a student
8 may earn college credit, such as an advanced placement or
9 international baccalaureate course or a course offered through
10 concurrent enrollment in high school and at an institution of
11 higher education;

12 (B) are enrolled in courses that meet the
13 curriculum requirements for the foundation [~~recommended or~~
14 ~~advanced~~] high school program as determined under Section 28.025;

15 (C) have submitted a free application for federal
16 student aid (FAFSA);

17 (D) are exempt under Section 51.3062(p) or (q)
18 from administration of an assessment instrument under Section
19 51.3062 or have performed successfully on an assessment instrument
20 under Section 51.3062;

21 (E) graduate from high school;

22 (F) graduate from an institution of higher
23 education; and

24 (G) have taken college entrance examinations and
25 the average score of those students on the examinations;

26 (3) must cover a period of at least five years; and

27 (4) may be directed at district students at any level

1 of primary or secondary education.

2 SECTION 11. Section 33.007(b), Education Code, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 (b) During the first school year a student is enrolled in a
5 high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment
6 charter school, and again during a student's senior year, a
7 counselor shall provide information about higher education to the
8 student and the student's parent or guardian. The information must
9 include information regarding:

10 (1) the importance of higher education;

11 (2) ~~the advantages of completing the recommended or~~
12 ~~advanced high school program adopted under Section 28.025(a),~~

13 ~~(3)~~ the disadvantages of taking courses to prepare
14 for a high school equivalency examination relative to the benefits
15 of taking courses leading to a high school diploma;

16 (3) ~~(4)~~ financial aid eligibility;

17 (4) ~~(5)~~ instruction on how to apply for federal
18 financial aid;

19 (5) ~~(6)~~ the center for financial aid information
20 established under Section 61.0776;

21 (6) ~~(7)~~ the automatic admission of certain students
22 to general academic teaching institutions as provided by Section
23 51.803;

24 (7) ~~(8)~~ the eligibility and academic performance
25 requirements for the TEXAS Grant as provided by Subchapter M,
26 Chapter 56; and

27 (8) ~~(9)~~ the availability of programs in the district

1 under which a student may earn college credit, including advanced
2 placement programs, dual credit programs, joint high school and
3 college credit programs, and international baccalaureate programs.

4 SECTION 12. Section 37.008(m), Education Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (m) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
7 evaluate annually the performance of each district's disciplinary
8 alternative education program established under this subchapter.
9 The evaluation required by this section shall be based on
10 indicators defined by the commissioner, but must include student
11 performance on assessment instruments required under Sections
12 39.023(a) and 39.025(a) and may not include student performance on
13 other end-of-course assessment instruments [~~(c)~~]. Academically,
14 the mission of disciplinary alternative education programs shall be
15 to enable students to perform at grade level.

16 SECTION 13. Section 39.023(c), Education Code, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 (c) The agency shall also adopt end-of-course assessment
19 instruments for secondary-level courses in Algebra I, Algebra II,
20 geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, English I, English II,
21 English III, world geography, world history, and United States
22 history. The Algebra I, Algebra II, and geometry end-of-course
23 assessment instruments must be administered with the aid of
24 technology. A school district shall comply with State Board of
25 Education rules regarding administration of the assessment
26 instruments listed in this subsection and may [~~shall~~] adopt a
27 policy that requires a student's performance on an end-of-course

1 assessment instrument for a course listed in this subsection in
2 which the student is enrolled to be considered in determining
3 ~~[account for 15 percent of]~~ the student's final grade for the
4 course. ~~[If a student retakes an end-of-course assessment~~
5 ~~instrument for a course listed in this subsection, as provided by~~
6 ~~Section 39.025, a school district is not required to use the~~
7 ~~student's performance on the subsequent administration or~~
8 ~~administrations of the assessment instrument to determine the~~
9 ~~student's final grade for the course.]~~ If a student is in a special
10 education program under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the student's
11 admission, review, and dismissal committee shall determine whether
12 any allowable modification is necessary in administering to the
13 student an assessment instrument required under this subsection.
14 The State Board of Education shall administer the assessment
15 instruments. The State Board of Education shall adopt a schedule
16 for the administration of end-of-course assessment instruments
17 that complies with the requirements of Subsection (c-3).

18 SECTION 14. Section 39.025, Education Code, is amended by
19 amending Subsections (a), (a-1), (b), and (b-2) and adding
20 Subsection (a-4) to read as follows:

21 (a) The commissioner shall adopt rules requiring a student
22 ~~[participating]~~ in the foundation ~~[recommended or advanced]~~ high
23 school program under Section 28.025 to be administered ~~[each~~
24 ~~end-of-course assessment instrument listed in Section 39.023(c)~~
25 ~~and requiring a student participating in the minimum high school~~
26 ~~program to be administered]~~ an end-of-course assessment instrument
27 listed in Section 39.023(c) only for a course in which the student

1 is enrolled and for which an end-of-course assessment instrument is
2 administered. A student is required to achieve~~[, in each subject in~~
3 ~~the foundation curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1), a cumulative~~
4 ~~score that is at least equal to the product of the number of~~
5 ~~end-of-course assessment instruments administered to the student~~
6 ~~in that subject and]~~ a scale score that indicates satisfactory
7 performance, as determined by the commissioner under Section
8 39.0241(a), on the English III end-of-course assessment
9 instruments in reading and writing and on the Algebra I
10 end-of-course assessment instrument. [~~A student must achieve a~~
11 ~~minimum score as determined by the commissioner to be within a~~
12 ~~reasonable range of the scale score under Section 39.0241(a) on an~~
13 ~~end-of-course assessment instrument for the score to count towards~~
14 ~~the student's cumulative score. For purposes of this subsection, a~~
15 ~~student's cumulative score is determined using the student's~~
16 ~~highest score on each end-of-course assessment instrument~~
17 ~~administered to the student.] A student may not receive a high
18 school diploma until the student has performed satisfactorily on
19 [~~the~~] end-of-course assessment instruments in the manner provided
20 under this subsection. This subsection does not require a student
21 to demonstrate readiness to enroll in an institution of higher
22 education.~~

23 (a-1) The commissioner by rule shall determine a method by
24 which a student's satisfactory performance on an advanced placement
25 test, an international baccalaureate examination, a PSAT, an SAT,
26 an SAT Subject Test, an ACT Plan, an ACT, or another assessment
27 instrument determined by the commissioner to be at least as

1 rigorous as an end-of-course assessment instrument adopted under
2 Section 39.023(c) may be used to satisfy [~~as a factor in determining~~
3 ~~whether the student satisfies~~] the requirements concerning an
4 end-of-course assessment instrument in an equivalent subject as
5 prescribed by [~~of~~] Subsection (a) [~~, including the cumulative score~~
6 ~~requirement of that subsection. The commissioner by rule may~~
7 ~~determine a method by which a student's satisfactory performance on~~
8 ~~a Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) assessment or a~~
9 ~~preliminary American College Test (ACT) assessment may be used as a~~
10 ~~factor in determining whether the student satisfies the~~
11 ~~requirements of Subsection (a)].~~

12 (a-4) The commissioner shall determine a method by which a
13 student's successful completion of a dual credit course, as
14 determined in accordance with commissioner rule, provided through
15 an institution of higher education, may be used to satisfy the
16 requirements concerning an end-of-course assessment instrument in
17 an equivalent subject as prescribed by Subsection (a). A student
18 who fails to successfully complete a dual credit course may retake
19 the course in an effort to successfully complete the course for
20 purposes of this subsection or may take the appropriate
21 end-of-course assessment instrument. The commissioner shall adopt
22 rules as necessary for the administration of this subsection.

23 (b) Each time an end-of-course assessment instrument
24 prescribed under Subsection (a) for receiving a high school diploma
25 is administered, a student who failed to achieve a scale [~~minimum~~]
26 score that indicates satisfactory performance [~~under Subsection~~
27 ~~(a)] shall retake the assessment instrument. A student who fails to~~

1 perform satisfactorily on an Algebra II or English III
2 end-of-course assessment instrument under the college readiness
3 performance standard, as provided under Section 39.024(b), may
4 retake the assessment instrument. Any other student may retake an
5 end-of-course assessment instrument for any reason. A student is
6 not required to retake a course as a condition of retaking an
7 end-of-course assessment instrument.

8 (b-2) If a school district determines that a student, on
9 completion of grade 11, is unlikely to achieve the [~~cumulative~~
10 score requirement under Subsection (a) [~~requirements~~] for one or
11 more end-of-course assessment instruments [~~subjects~~] prescribed
12 under [~~by~~] Subsection (a) for receiving a high school diploma, the
13 district shall require the student to enroll in a corresponding
14 content-area college preparatory course for which an end-of-course
15 assessment instrument has been adopted, if available. A student
16 who enrolls in a college preparatory course described by this
17 subsection shall be administered an end-of-course assessment
18 instrument for the course, with the end-of-course assessment
19 instrument scored on a scale as determined by the commissioner [~~not~~
20 ~~to exceed 20 percent of the cumulative score requirements required~~
21 ~~to graduate as determined under Subsection (a)~~]. A student may use
22 the student's score on the end-of-course assessment instrument for
23 the college preparatory course towards satisfying the [~~cumulative~~
24 score requirement under [~~requirements prescribed by~~] Subsection
25 (a).

26 SECTION 15. Section 39.053, Education Code, is amended by
27 amending Subsections (c), (d-1), and (f) and adding Subsection (j)

1 to read as follows:

2 (c) Indicators of student achievement adopted under this
3 section must include:

4 (1) the results of assessment instruments required
5 under Sections 39.023(a) [~~7(e)~~] and (1) and 39.025(a), including
6 the results of assessment instruments required for graduation
7 retaken by a student, aggregated across grade levels by subject
8 area, including:

9 (A) for the performance standard determined by
10 the commissioner under Section 39.0241(a):

11 (i) the percentage of students who
12 performed satisfactorily on the assessment instruments, aggregated
13 across grade levels by subject area; and

14 (ii) for students who did not perform
15 satisfactorily, the percentage of students who met the standard for
16 annual improvement, as determined by the agency under Section
17 39.034, on the assessment instruments, aggregated across grade
18 levels by subject area; and

19 (B) for the college readiness performance
20 standard as determined under Section 39.0241:

21 (i) the percentage of students who
22 performed satisfactorily on the assessment instruments, aggregated
23 across grade levels by subject area; and

24 (ii) for students who did not perform
25 satisfactorily, the percentage of students who met the standard for
26 annual improvement, as determined by the agency under Section
27 39.034, on the assessment instruments, aggregated across grade

1 levels by subject area;

2 (2) dropout rates, including dropout rates and
3 district completion rates for grade levels 9 through 12, computed
4 in accordance with standards and definitions adopted by the
5 National Center for Education Statistics of the United States
6 Department of Education; and

7 (3) high school graduation rates, computed in
8 accordance with standards and definitions adopted in compliance
9 with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et
10 seq.).

11 (d-1) In aggregating results of assessment instruments
12 across grade levels by subject in accordance with Subsection
13 (c)(1), the performance of a student enrolled below the high school
14 level on an assessment instrument required under Section 39.025(a)
15 [~~39.023(c)~~] is included with results relating to other students
16 enrolled at the same grade level.

17 (f) Annually, the commissioner shall define the state
18 standard for the current school year for each student achievement
19 indicator described by Subsection (c) and shall project the state
20 standards for each indicator for the following two school years.
21 The commissioner shall periodically raise the state standards for
22 the student achievement indicator described by Subsection
23 (c)(1)(B)(i) for accreditation as necessary to reach the goals of
24 achieving, by not later than the 2019-2020 school year:

25 (1) student performance in this state, disaggregated
26 by race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status, that ranks nationally
27 in the top 10 states in terms of college readiness; and

1 (2) student performance, [~~including the percentage of~~
2 ~~students graduating under the recommended or advanced high school~~
3 ~~program,~~] with no significant achievement gaps by race, ethnicity,
4 and socioeconomic status.

5 (j) Indicators of student achievement adopted under this
6 section may not include the results of an end-of-course assessment
7 instrument other than as provided by Subsection (c)(1).

8 SECTION 16. Section 39.054(b-1), Education Code, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (b-1) Consideration of the effectiveness of district
11 programs under Section 39.052(b)(2)(B) or (C):

12 (1) must:

13 (A) be based on data collected through the Public
14 Education Information Management System (PEIMS) for purposes of
15 accountability under this chapter; and

16 (B) include the results of assessments required
17 under Sections [~~Section~~] 39.023(a), (b), (l), and (n) and
18 39.025(a); and

19 (2) may be based on the results of a special
20 accreditation investigation conducted under Section 39.057.

21 SECTION 17. Section 39.057(a), Education Code, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 (a) The commissioner shall authorize special accreditation
24 investigations to be conducted:

25 (1) when excessive numbers of absences of students
26 eligible to be tested on state assessment instruments are
27 determined;

1 (2) when excessive numbers of allowable exemptions
2 from the required state assessment instruments are determined;

3 (3) in response to complaints submitted to the agency
4 with respect to alleged violations of civil rights or other
5 requirements imposed on the state by federal law or court order;

6 (4) in response to established compliance reviews of
7 the district's financial accounting practices and state and federal
8 program requirements;

9 (5) when extraordinary numbers of student placements
10 in disciplinary alternative education programs, other than
11 placements under Sections 37.006 and 37.007, are determined;

12 (6) in response to an allegation involving a conflict
13 between members of the board of trustees or between the board and
14 the district administration if it appears that the conflict
15 involves a violation of a role or duty of the board members or the
16 administration clearly defined by this code;

17 (7) when excessive numbers of students in special
18 education programs under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, are assessed
19 through assessment instruments developed or adopted under Section
20 39.023(b);

21 (8) in response to an allegation regarding or an
22 analysis using a statistical method result indicating a possible
23 violation of an assessment instrument security procedure
24 established under Section 39.0301, including for the purpose of
25 investigating or auditing a school district under that section;

26 (9) when a significant pattern of decreased academic
27 performance has developed as a result of the promotion in the

1 preceding two school years of students who did not perform
2 satisfactorily as determined by the commissioner under Section
3 39.0241(a) on assessment instruments administered under Section
4 39.023(a), (c), or (1);

5 (10) [~~when excessive numbers of students graduate~~
6 ~~under the minimum high school program,~~

7 [~~(11)~~] when excessive numbers of students eligible to
8 enroll fail to complete an advanced mathematics [~~Algebra II~~] course
9 or any other advanced course determined by the commissioner [~~as~~
10 ~~distinguishing between students participating in the recommended~~
11 ~~high school program from students participating in the minimum high~~
12 ~~school program]~~;

13 (11) [~~(12)~~] when resource allocation practices as
14 evaluated under Section 39.0821 indicate a potential for
15 significant improvement in resource allocation; or

16 (12) [~~(13)~~] as the commissioner otherwise determines
17 necessary.

18 SECTION 18. Section 39.301(c), Education Code, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 (c) Indicators for reporting purposes must include:

21 (1) [~~the percentage of graduating students who meet~~
22 ~~the course requirements established by State Board of Education~~
23 ~~rule for the minimum high school program, the recommended high~~
24 ~~school program, and the advanced high school program,~~

25 [~~(2)~~] the results of the SAT, ACT, articulated
26 postsecondary degree programs described by Section 61.852, and
27 certified workforce training programs described by Chapter 311,

1 Labor Code;

2 (2) [~~(3)~~] for students who have failed to perform
3 satisfactorily, under each performance standard under Section
4 39.0241, on an assessment instrument required under Section
5 39.023(a) or 39.025(a) [~~or (c)~~], the performance of those students
6 on subsequent assessment instruments required under those
7 sections, aggregated by grade level and subject area;

8 (3) [~~(4)~~ ~~for each campus, the number of students,~~
9 ~~disaggregated by major student subpopulations, that agree under~~
10 ~~Section 28.025(b) to take courses under the minimum high school~~
11 ~~program;~~

12 ~~(5)~~ the percentage of students, aggregated by grade
13 level, provided accelerated instruction under Section 28.0211(c),
14 the results of assessment instruments administered under that
15 section, the percentage of students promoted through the grade
16 placement committee process under Section 28.0211, the subject of
17 the assessment instrument on which each student failed to perform
18 satisfactorily under each performance standard under Section
19 39.0241, and the performance of those students in the school year
20 following that promotion on the assessment instruments required
21 under Section 39.023;

22 (4) [~~(6)~~] the percentage of students of limited
23 English proficiency exempted from the administration of an
24 assessment instrument under Sections 39.027(a)(1) and (2);

25 (5) [~~(7)~~] the percentage of students in a special
26 education program under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, assessed through
27 assessment instruments developed or adopted under Section

1 39.023(b);

2 (6) [~~(8)~~] the percentage of students who satisfy the
3 college readiness measure;

4 (7) [~~(9)~~] the measure of progress toward dual language
5 proficiency under Section 39.034(b), for students of limited
6 English proficiency, as defined by Section 29.052;

7 (8) [~~(10)~~] the percentage of students who are not
8 educationally disadvantaged;

9 (9) [~~(11)~~] the percentage of students who enroll and
10 begin instruction at an institution of higher education in the
11 school year following high school graduation; and

12 (10) [~~(12)~~] the percentage of students who
13 successfully complete the first year of instruction at an
14 institution of higher education without needing a developmental
15 education course.

16 SECTION 19. Section 39.305(b), Education Code, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 (b) The report card shall include the following
19 information:

20 (1) where applicable, the student achievement
21 indicators described by Section 39.053(c) and the reporting
22 indicators described by Sections 39.301(c)(1) through (3) [~~(5)~~];

23 (2) average class size by grade level and subject;

24 (3) the administrative and instructional costs per
25 student, computed in a manner consistent with Section 44.0071; and

26 (4) the district's instructional expenditures ratio
27 and instructional employees ratio computed under Section 44.0071,

1 and the statewide average of those ratios, as determined by the
2 commissioner.

3 SECTION 20. Section 42.152(r), Education Code, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 (r) The commissioner shall grant a one-year exemption from
6 the requirements of Subsections (q)-(q-4) to a school district in
7 which the group of students who have failed to perform
8 satisfactorily in the preceding school year on an assessment
9 instrument required under Section 39.023(a) [~~-(c),~~] or (l) or
10 39.025(a) subsequently performs on those assessment instruments at
11 a level that meets or exceeds a level prescribed by commissioner
12 rule. Each year the commissioner, based on the most recent
13 information available, shall determine if a school district is
14 entitled to an exemption for the following school year and notify
15 the district of that determination.

16 SECTION 21. Section 51.3062(q-1), Education Code, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (q-1) A student who has completed the foundation [~~a~~
19 ~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program as determined under
20 Section 28.025 and demonstrated the performance standard for
21 satisfactory performance [~~college readiness~~] as provided by
22 Section 39.0241(a) [~~39.024~~] on the [~~Algebra II and~~] English III
23 end-of-course assessment instrument [~~instruments~~] is exempt from
24 the requirements of this section [~~with respect to those content~~
25 ~~areas~~]. The commissioner of higher education by rule shall
26 establish the period for which an exemption under this subsection
27 is valid.

1 SECTION 22. Sections 51.803(a) and (d), Education Code, are
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-1), each general academic
4 teaching institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the
5 institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant graduated
6 with a grade point average in the top 10 percent of the student's
7 high school graduating class in one of the two school years
8 preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for
9 admission and:

10 (1) the applicant graduated from a public or private
11 high school in this state accredited by a generally recognized
12 accrediting organization or from a high school operated by the
13 United States Department of Defense;

14 (2) the applicant:

15 (A) successfully completed:

16 (i) at a public high school, the curriculum
17 requirements established under Section 28.025 for the foundation
18 [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program; or

19 (ii) at a high school to which Section
20 28.025 does not apply, a curriculum that is equivalent in content
21 and rigor to the foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school
22 program; or

23 (B) satisfied ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks
24 on the ACT assessment applicable to the applicant or earned on the
25 SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 or the
26 equivalent; and

27 (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school

1 operated by the United States Department of Defense, the applicant
2 is a Texas resident under Section 54.052 or is entitled to pay
3 tuition fees at the rate provided for Texas residents under Section
4 54.241(d) [~~54.058(d)~~] for the term or semester to which admitted.

5 (d) For purposes of Subsection (c)(2), a student's official
6 transcript or diploma must, not later than the end of the student's
7 junior year, indicate[+]

8 [~~(1)~~] whether the student has satisfied or is on
9 schedule to satisfy the requirements of Subsection (a)(2)(A)(i) or
10 (ii), as applicable[~~, or~~

11 [~~(2) if Subsection (b) applies to the student, whether~~
12 ~~the student has completed the portion of the recommended or~~
13 ~~advanced curriculum or of the curriculum equivalent in content and~~
14 ~~rigor, as applicable, that was available to the student].~~

15 SECTION 23. Section 51.804, Education Code, is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 Sec. 51.804. ADDITIONAL AUTOMATIC ADMISSIONS: SELECTED
18 INSTITUTIONS. For each academic year, the governing board of each
19 general academic teaching institution shall determine whether to
20 adopt an admissions policy under which an applicant to the
21 institution as a first-time freshman student, other than an
22 applicant eligible for admission under Section 51.803, shall be
23 admitted to the institution if the applicant:

24 (1) graduated from a public or private high school in
25 this state accredited by a generally recognized accrediting
26 organization with a grade point average in the top 25 percent of the
27 applicant's high school graduating class; and

1 (2) satisfies the requirements of:

2 (A) Section 51.803(a)(2)(A) or (B) [~~51.803(b),~~
3 ~~as applicable to the student, or Section 51.803(a)(2)(B)]~~; and

4 (B) Sections 51.803(c)(2) and 51.803(d).

5 SECTION 24. Section 51.805(a), Education Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) A graduating student who does not qualify for admission
8 under Section 51.803 or 51.804 may apply to any general academic
9 teaching institution if the student satisfies the requirements of:

10 (1) Section 51.803(a)(2)(A) or (B) [~~51.803(b),~~
11 ~~as applicable to the student, or Section 51.803(a)(2)(B)]~~; and

12 (2) Sections 51.803(c)(2) and 51.803(d).

13 SECTION 25. Section 51.807(b), Education Code, is amended
14 to read as follows:

15 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after
16 consulting with the Texas Education Agency, by rule shall establish
17 standards for determining for purposes of this subchapter:

18 (1) whether a private high school is accredited by a
19 generally recognized accrediting organization; and

20 (2) whether a person completed a high school
21 curriculum that is equivalent in content and rigor to the
22 curriculum requirements established under Section 28.025 for the
23 foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program.

24 SECTION 26. Subchapter A, Chapter 56, Education Code, is
25 amended by adding Section 56.009 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 56.009. ELIGIBILITY BASED ON GRADUATION UNDER CERTAIN
27 HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS. To the extent that a person's eligibility to

1 participate in any program under this chapter, including
2 Subchapters K, M, Q, and R, is contingent on the person graduating
3 under the recommended or advanced high school program, as those
4 programs existed before the adoption of __.B. No. _____, 83rd
5 Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, the Texas Higher Education
6 Coordinating Board and the commissioner of education shall jointly
7 adopt rules to modify, clarify, or otherwise establish for affected
8 programs appropriate eligibility requirements regarding high
9 school curriculum completion.

10 SECTION 27. Section 61.0517(a), Education Code, is amended
11 to read as follows:

12 (a) In this section, "applied STEM course" means an applied
13 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics course offered as
14 part of a school district's career and technology education
15 curriculum and approved, as provided by Section 28.027, by the
16 State Board of Education for purposes of satisfying the mathematics
17 and science curriculum requirements for the foundation
18 ~~[recommended]~~ high school program ~~[imposed]~~ under Section 28.025
19 ~~[28.025(b-1)(1)(A)]~~.

20 SECTION 28. Section 61.792(b), Education Code, is amended
21 to read as follows:

22 (b) To qualify for a scholarship under this section, a
23 student must:

24 (1) have graduated with a grade point average in the
25 top 20 percent of the student's high school graduating class;

26 (2) have graduated from high school with a grade point
27 average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent in

1 mathematics and science courses offered under the foundation
2 [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program under Section 28.025
3 [~~28.025(a)~~]; and

4 (3) maintain an overall grade point average of at
5 least 3.0 on a four-point scale at the general academic teaching
6 institution or the private or independent institution of higher
7 education in which the student is enrolled.

8 SECTION 29. Section 61.852(a), Education Code, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (a) A tech-prep program is a program of study that:

11 (1) combines at least two years of secondary education
12 with at least two years of postsecondary education in a
13 nonduplicative, sequential course of study based on the foundation
14 [~~recommended~~] high school program adopted by the State Board of
15 Education under Section 28.025 [~~28.025(a)~~];

16 (2) integrates academic instruction and vocational
17 and technical instruction;

18 (3) uses work-based and worksite learning where
19 available and appropriate;

20 (4) provides technical preparation in a career field
21 such as engineering technology, applied science, a mechanical,
22 industrial, or practical art or trade, agriculture, health
23 occupations, business, or applied economics;

24 (5) builds student competence in mathematics,
25 science, reading, writing, communications, economics, and
26 workplace skills through applied, contextual academics and
27 integrated instruction in a coherent sequence of courses;

1 (6) leads to an associate degree, two-year
2 postsecondary certificate, or postsecondary two-year
3 apprenticeship with provisions, to the extent applicable, for
4 students to continue toward completion of a baccalaureate degree;
5 and

6 (7) leads to placement in appropriate employment or to
7 further education.

8 SECTION 30. Section 61.855(d), Education Code, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (d) A tech-prep program must:

11 (1) be implemented under an articulation agreement
12 between the participants in the consortium;

13 (2) consist of two to four years of secondary school
14 preceding graduation and:

15 (A) two or more years of higher education; or

16 (B) two or more years of apprenticeship following
17 secondary instruction;

18 (3) have a common core of required proficiency based
19 on the foundation [~~recommended~~] high school program adopted by the
20 State Board of Education under Section 28.025 [~~28.025(a)~~], with
21 proficiencies in mathematics, science, reading, writing,
22 communications, and technologies designed to lead to an associate's
23 degree or postsecondary certificate in a specific career field;

24 (4) include the development of tech-prep program
25 curricula for both secondary and postsecondary participants in the
26 consortium that:

27 (A) meets academic standards developed by the

1 state;

2 (B) links secondary schools and two-year
3 postsecondary institutions, and, if practicable, four-year
4 institutions of higher education through nonduplicative sequences
5 of courses in career fields, including the investigation of
6 opportunities for tech-prep students to enroll concurrently in
7 secondary and postsecondary course work;

8 (C) uses, if appropriate and available,
9 work-based or worksite learning in conjunction with business and
10 all aspects of an industry; and

11 (D) uses educational technology and distance
12 learning, as appropriate, to involve each consortium participant
13 more fully in the development and operation of programs;

14 (5) include in-service training for teachers that:

15 (A) is designed to train vocational and technical
16 teachers to effectively implement tech-prep programs;

17 (B) provides for joint training for teachers in
18 the tech-prep consortium;

19 (C) is designed to ensure that teachers and
20 administrators stay current with the needs, expectations, and
21 methods of business and of all aspects of an industry;

22 (D) focuses on training postsecondary education
23 faculty in the use of contextual and applied curricula and
24 instruction; and

25 (E) provides training in the use and application
26 of technology;

27 (6) include training programs for counselors designed

1 to enable counselors to more effectively:

2 (A) provide information to students regarding
3 tech-prep programs;

4 (B) support student progress in completing
5 tech-prep programs;

6 (C) provide information on related employment
7 opportunities;

8 (D) ensure that tech-prep students are placed in
9 appropriate employment; and

10 (E) stay current with the needs, expectations,
11 and methods of business and of all aspects of an industry;

12 (7) provide equal access to the full range of
13 tech-prep programs for individuals who are members of special
14 populations, including by the development of tech-prep program
15 services appropriate to the needs of special populations; and

16 (8) provide for preparatory services that assist
17 participants in tech-prep programs.

18 SECTION 31. Section 61.861(c), Education Code, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 (c) A course developed for purposes of this section must:

21 (1) provide content that enables a student to develop
22 the relevant and critical skills needed to be prepared for
23 employment or additional training in a high-demand occupation;

24 (2) incorporate college and career readiness skills as
25 part of the curriculum;

26 (3) be offered for dual credit; and

27 (4) satisfy a mathematics or science requirement under

1 the foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program as
2 determined under Section 28.025.

3 SECTION 32. Section 61.864, Education Code, is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Sec. 61.864. REVIEW OF COURSES. Courses for which a grant
6 is awarded under this subchapter shall be reviewed by the
7 commissioner of higher education and the commissioner of education,
8 in consultation with the comptroller and the Texas Workforce
9 Commission, once every four years to determine whether the course:

10 (1) is being used by public educational institutions
11 in this state;

12 (2) prepares high school students with the skills
13 necessary for employment in the high-demand occupation and further
14 postsecondary study; and

15 (3) satisfies a mathematics or science requirement for
16 the foundation [~~recommended or advanced~~] high school program as
17 determined under Section 28.025.

18 SECTION 33. Section 78.10(b), Education Code, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (b) The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science is a
21 division of The University of Texas at Brownsville and is under the
22 management and control of the board. The academy serves the
23 following purposes:

24 (1) to provide academically gifted and highly
25 motivated junior and senior high school students with a challenging
26 university-level curriculum that:

27 (A) allows students to complete high school

1 graduation requirements [~~, including requirements adopted~~] under
2 Section 28.025 for the foundation [~~advanced~~] high school program,
3 while attending for academic credit a public institution of higher
4 education;

5 (B) fosters students' knowledge of real-world
6 mathematics and science issues and applications and teaches
7 students to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to
8 those issues and problems;

9 (C) includes the study of English, foreign
10 languages, social studies, mathematics, science, and technology;
11 and

12 (D) offers students learning opportunities
13 related to mathematics and science through in-depth research and
14 field-based studies;

15 (2) to provide students with an awareness of
16 mathematics and science careers and professional development
17 opportunities through seminars, workshops, collaboration with
18 postsecondary and university students including opportunities for
19 summer studies, internships in foreign countries, and similar
20 methods; and

21 (3) to provide students with social development
22 activities that enrich the academic curriculum and student life,
23 including, as determined appropriate by the academy, University
24 Interscholastic League activities and other extracurricular
25 activities.

26 SECTION 34. Section 87.505(b), Education Code, is amended
27 to read as follows:

1 (b) The Texas Academy of International Studies is a division
2 of Texas A&M International University and is under the management
3 and control of the board. The academy serves the following
4 purposes:

5 (1) to provide academically gifted and highly
6 motivated junior and senior high school students with a challenging
7 university-level curriculum that:

8 (A) allows students to complete high school
9 graduation requirements [~~, including requirements adopted~~] under
10 Section 28.025 for the foundation [~~advanced~~] high school program,
11 while attending for academic credit a public institution of higher
12 education;

13 (B) fosters students' knowledge of real-world
14 international issues and problems and teaches students to apply
15 critical thinking and problem-solving skills to those issues and
16 problems;

17 (C) includes the study of English, foreign
18 languages, social studies, anthropology, and sociology;

19 (D) is presented through an interdisciplinary
20 approach that introduces and develops issues, especially issues
21 related to international concerns, throughout the curriculum; and

22 (E) offers students learning opportunities
23 related to international issues through in-depth research and
24 field-based studies;

25 (2) to provide students with an awareness of
26 international career and professional development opportunities
27 through seminars, workshops, collaboration with postsecondary

1 students from other countries, summer academic international
2 studies internships in foreign countries, and similar methods; and

3 (3) to provide students with social development
4 activities that enrich the academic curriculum and student life,
5 including, as determined appropriate by the academy, University
6 Interscholastic League activities and other extracurricular
7 activities generally offered by public high schools.

8 SECTION 35. The following provisions of the Education Code
9 are repealed:

- 10 (1) Section 28.002(q);
11 (2) Sections 28.025(b-6), (b-8), and (g);
12 (3) Section 39.023(o);
13 (4) Sections 39.025(a-2) and (a-3); and
14 (5) Section 51.803(b).

15 SECTION 36. Section 39.025, Education Code, as amended by
16 this Act, as related to reducing end-of-course testing
17 requirements, applies only to students who entered the ninth grade
18 during the 2011-2012 or 2012-2013 school year or who will enter the
19 ninth grade during a later school year.

20 SECTION 37. This Act takes effect immediately if it
21 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
22 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
23 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
24 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.