

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 1509

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to college readiness and success.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 61.0517, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this section, "applied STEM course" means an applied science, technology, engineering, or mathematics course offered as part of a school district's career and technology education curriculum and approved, as provided by Section 28.027, by the State Board of Education for purposes of satisfying the mathematics and science curriculum requirements, including college readiness standards, for the recommended high school program [~~imposed~~] under Section 28.025(b-1)(1)(A). The term may include a course offered for dual credit.

SECTION 2. Subsection (a), Section 61.0762, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To implement the college readiness and success strategic action plan adopted under Section 61.0761 and to enhance the success of students at institutions of higher education, the board by rule shall:

(1) develop or identify higher education bridge programs in the subject areas of mathematics, science, social science, or English language arts to increase student success by reducing the need for developmental education;

1           (2) develop incentive programs for institutions of  
2 higher education that implement research-based, innovative  
3 developmental education initiatives;

4           (3) develop a pilot program to award grants to  
5 institutions of higher education for intensive programs designed to  
6 address the needs of students at risk of dropping out of college;

7           (4) develop or identify professional development  
8 programs for faculty of institutions of higher education on college  
9 readiness standards and the implications of such standards on  
10 instruction; and

11           (5) develop or identify other programs as determined  
12 by the board that support the participation and success goals in  
13 "Closing the Gaps," the state's master plan for higher education,  
14 with qualifications and requirements for student participation and  
15 institutional or public school eligibility determined by the  
16 commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

17           SECTION 3. Subsection (b), Section 61.833, Education Code,  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19           (b) This section applies to a student enrolled in a general  
20 academic teaching institution who:

21           (1) transferred to the institution from or previously  
22 attended a lower-division institution of higher education;

23           (2) earned at least 30 credit hours for course work  
24 successfully completed at the lower-division institution of higher  
25 education; and

26           (3) has earned a cumulative total of at least 66 [~~90~~]  
27 credit hours for course work successfully completed.

1           SECTION 4.   Subsection (d), Section 61.0761, Education Code,  
2 is repealed.

3           SECTION 5.   This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.