S.B. No. 1589

AN ACT
relating to assistance and education regarding personal finance for
certain children in foster care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
SECTION 1. Section 264.121, Family Code, is amended by
amending Subsections (a-1) and (f) and adding Subsection (a-2) to
read as follows:
(a-1) The department shall require a foster care provider to
provide or assist youth who are age 14 or older in obtaining
experiential life-skills training to improve their transition to
independent living. Experiential life-skills training must be
tailored to a youth's skills and abilities and may include training
in practical activities that include grocery shopping, meal
preparation and cooking, using public transportation, and
performing basic household tasks[,] and balancing a checkbook).
(a-2) The experiential life-skills training under
Subsection (a-1) must include a financial literacy education
program that:
(1) includes instruction on:
(A) obtaining and interpreting a credit score;
(B) protecting, repairing, and improving a
credit score;
(C) avoiding predatory lending practices;
(D) saving money and accomplishing financial
goals through prudent financial management practices;

(E) using basic banking and accounting skills, including balancing a checkbook;

(F) using debit and credit cards responsibly;

(G) understanding a paycheck and items withheld from a paycheck; and

(H) protecting financial, credit, and identifying information in personal and professional relationships; and

(2) assists a youth who has a source of income to establish a savings plan and, if available, a savings account that the youth can independently manage.

(f) The department shall require a person with whom the department contracts for transitional living services for foster youth to provide or assist youth in obtaining:

(1) housing services;

(2) job training and employment services;

(3) college preparation services;

(4) services that will assist youth in obtaining a general education development certificate; [and]

(5) a savings or checking account if the youth is at least 18 years of age and has a source of income; and

(6) any other appropriate transitional living service identified by the department.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.
S.B. No. 1589

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1589 passed the Senate on April 25, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 26, Nays 2.

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1589 passed the House on May 8, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor