

By: Canales

H.B. No. 926

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study and report regarding the use of open-source
3 instructional materials at public institutions of higher
4 education.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 61.0666 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 61.0666. STUDY ON USE OF OPEN-SOURCE INSTRUCTIONAL
9 MATERIALS. (a) In this section, "open-source instructional
10 material" means electronic instructional material that is
11 available for downloading from the Internet at no charge to a
12 student and without requiring the purchase of an unlock code,
13 membership, or other access or use charge, except for a charge to
14 order an optional printed copy of all or part of the instructional
15 material.

16 (b) The board shall conduct a study regarding the use of
17 open-source instructional materials at institutions of higher
18 education. The study must include:

19 (1) an analysis of any impact that the use of
20 open-source instructional materials has on the cost of other
21 instructional materials;

22 (2) any difference in the quality of content or effect
23 on the learning process between open-source instructional
24 materials and other instructional materials; and

1 (3) an evaluation of information from other states
2 that have implemented the use of open-source instructional
3 materials at similar institutions regarding:

4 (A) the benefits realized and costs incurred from
5 the use of those materials; and

6 (B) best practices for the use of those
7 materials.

8 (c) Not later than September 1, 2016, the board shall submit
9 to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction
10 over higher education the results of its study under this section
11 and recommendations for legislative or other action.

12 (d) This section expires September 1, 2017.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.