

By: Murphy

H.B. No. 1502

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the elimination of certain formula funding and dropped
3 course restrictions for students enrolled in accelerated,
4 affordable baccalaureate programs at public institutions of higher
5 education.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 51.907, Education Code, is amended by
8 adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

9 (b-1) This section does not apply to a student enrolled in
10 an accelerated baccalaureate program created in collaboration with
11 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board that uses a
12 competency-based model and year-round flat-rate tuition to
13 facilitate degree completion, as verified by the coordinating
14 board.

15 SECTION 2. Section 61.059, Education Code, is amended by
16 adding Subsection (r) to read as follows:

17 (r) Notwithstanding any other law, the board may not exclude
18 from being counted in the hours reported to the Legislative Budget
19 Board for formula funding contact hours or semester credit hours
20 for a student's enrollment in a course for which the student has
21 previously generated formula funding for the same course if the
22 student is enrolled in an accelerated baccalaureate program created
23 in collaboration with the board that uses a competency-based model
24 and year-round flat-rate tuition to facilitate degree completion,

1 as verified by the board.

2 SECTION 3. Section 61.0595, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsection (f-1) to read as follows:

4 (f-1) In the formulas established under Section 61.059, the
5 board shall include without consideration of Subsection (a) or (e)
6 funding for semester credit hours earned by a student who is
7 enrolled in an accelerated baccalaureate program created by an
8 institution in collaboration with the board that uses a
9 competency-based model and year-round flat-rate tuition to
10 facilitate degree completion, as verified by the board.

11 SECTION 4. Section 51.907(b-1), Education Code, as added by
12 this Act, applies beginning with the fall 2015 semester.

13 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act to Sections
14 61.059 and 61.0595, Education Code, apply beginning with funding
15 recommendations made under Section 61.059, Education Code, for the
16 state fiscal biennium beginning January 1, 2017.

17 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.