

By: Rodriguez of Travis, Farney,
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H.B. No. 1891

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1891:

By: Aycock

C.S.H.B. No. 1891

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to Texas community schools.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter N to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER N. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Sec. 29.551. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "community-based organization" means a nonprofit corporation or association located in close proximity to the population the organization serves.

Sec. 29.552. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A Texas community school is a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school that partners with one or more community-based organizations to coordinate academic, social, and health services to reduce barriers to learning and improve the quality of education for students in the community.

(b) A Texas community school offers a variety of programs and services, which may include:

- (1) early childhood education;
- (2) after-school and summer school academic and enrichment programs;
- (3) college and career preparation;
- (4) service learning opportunities, such as internships and community service programs;

1 (5) leadership and mentoring programs;

2 (6) activities to encourage community and parent
3 engagement in students' education;

4 (7) health and social services for students and their
5 families; and

6 (8) parenting classes.

7 Sec. 29.553. TRANSITION TO TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A
8 public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school may
9 transition to a Texas community school if the school:

10 (1) establishes a school community partnership team to
11 function as the campus-level planning and decision-making
12 committee required under Section 11.251, composed of the members
13 required under Section 11.251 and additional community
14 representatives;

15 (2) conducts a comprehensive on-site needs assessment
16 using the guidelines and procedures described by Section 39.106(b);

17 (3) establishes a partnership with a lead
18 community-based organization, such as Communities In Schools, a
19 social service provider, or an education or youth services
20 organization, that has experience in developing and implementing a
21 community school plan;

22 (4) develops a community school plan that satisfies
23 the requirements for a campus improvement plan under Section
24 11.253; and

25 (5) gains approval for the community school plan from:

26 (A) at least 75 percent of campus faculty and
27 staff and 75 percent of parents of students enrolled at the school;

1 and

2 (B) the board of trustees of the school district
3 in which the school is located.

4 (b) A school that transitions to a Texas community school
5 under Subsection (a) shall hire a new employee or designate a school
6 district employee or an employee of a community-based organization
7 with experience in developing and implementing a community school
8 plan as the community school coordinator for the school. The
9 coordinator's duties include:

10 (1) recruiting community partners and building
11 community support for the school;

12 (2) coordinating:

13 (A) the school community partnership team's
14 planning and training activities;

15 (B) planning and evaluation efforts between the
16 school and community partners;

17 (C) academic and student and family support
18 programs; and

19 (D) after-school, summer, and enrichment
20 programs for students;

21 (3) encouraging community and parent engagement in the
22 school;

23 (4) seeking available resources for implementing
24 community school programs and services;

25 (5) conducting an annual needs assessment of the
26 school in coordination with the school community partnership team;

27 (6) acting as a liaison between the school, other

1 community schools, the school district, and community partners; and
2 (7) developing a plan for sustaining the community
3 school plan.

4 (c) In developing or implementing a community school plan,
5 the school may seek assistance from other community schools,
6 regional education service centers, or technical assistance
7 providers.

8 (d) For purposes of Subsection (c), a technical assistance
9 provider is a public or private entity that has experience in
10 developing and implementing a community school plan and that
11 provides:

12 (1) professional development, training, technical
13 assistance, coaching, or quality assurance activities to assist
14 schools in transitioning to a Texas community school, sustaining
15 the community school plan, or maximizing the effectiveness of that
16 plan; or

17 (2) capacity-building training to regional education
18 service centers to enable the centers to support a school's
19 transition to a Texas community school or assist the school in
20 sustaining the school's community school plan.

21 Sec. 29.554. COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT OVERSIGHT. A school
22 that transitions to a Texas community school shall:

23 (1) hold a community meeting at least twice each year
24 to:

25 (A) inform community stakeholders about the
26 school's progress in implementing the community school plan; and

27 (B) seek community input regarding any

1 improvements or changes that could be made to the plan; and

2 (2) report annually to the board of trustees of the
3 school district in which the school is located regarding the
4 school's progress in implementing the plan.

5 Sec. 29.555. LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS. (a) A school
6 community partnership team formed by a school with performance
7 below any standard under Section 39.054(e) functions as the campus
8 intervention team for purposes of Section 39.106.

9 (b) A low-performing school transitioning to a Texas
10 community school shall receive district-level support to assist the
11 school in developing and implementing the community school plan.
12 The support must continue for at least two school years after the
13 school successfully meets the standards under Section 39.054(e).

14 Sec. 29.556. FUNDING. A Texas community school or a school
15 transitioning to a Texas community school may seek and accept
16 gifts, grants, donations, and funds from federal and state agencies
17 and private sources for purposes related to the school's function
18 as a Texas community school.

19 Sec. 29.557. RECOGNITION AS TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL. (a) A
20 school that transitions to a Texas community school shall be
21 recognized by the state as a Texas community school.

22 (b) The agency shall develop methods for recognizing a
23 school as a Texas community school.

24 Sec. 29.558. RULES. The commissioner may adopt rules as
25 necessary to implement this subchapter.

26 SECTION 2. Sections 39.106(c) and (f), Education Code, are
27 amended to read as follows:

1 (c) On completing the on-site needs assessment under this
2 section, the campus intervention team shall, with the involvement
3 and advice of the school community partnership team, if applicable,
4 recommend actions relating to any area of insufficient performance,
5 including:

- 6 (1) reallocation of resources;
- 7 (2) technical assistance;
- 8 (3) changes in school procedures or operations;
- 9 (4) staff development for instructional and
10 administrative staff;
- 11 (5) intervention for individual administrators or
12 teachers;
- 13 (6) waivers from state statutes or rules;
- 14 (7) teacher recruitment or retention strategies and
15 incentives provided by the district to attract and retain teachers
16 with the characteristics included in Subsection (b)(1); ~~or~~
- 17 (8) transition to a Texas community school under
18 Subchapter N, Chapter 29; or
- 19 (9) other actions the campus intervention team
20 considers appropriate.

21 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter,
22 if the commissioner determines that a campus for which an
23 intervention is ordered under Subsection (a) is not fully
24 implementing the campus intervention team's recommendations or
25 targeted improvement plan or updated plan, the commissioner may:

- 26 (1) order the reconstitution of the campus as provided
27 by Section 39.107; or

1 (2) approve the campus's transition to a Texas
2 community school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, on request from
3 the principal of the campus.

4 SECTION 3. Section 39.107, Education Code, is amended by
5 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-2) and (s) to
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-2), after ~~After~~ a campus has
8 been identified as unacceptable for two consecutive school years,
9 the commissioner shall order the reconstitution of the campus.

10 (a-2) A campus may elect to transition to a Texas community
11 school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, instead of reconstitution
12 under this section if the campus:

13 (1) notifies the commissioner of the campus's election
14 not later than two weeks after the date on which the commissioner
15 orders reconstitution under Subsection (a); and

16 (2) satisfies the requirements of transitioning to a
17 Texas community school under Subchapter N, Chapter 29, not later
18 than six months after the date on which the commissioner orders
19 reconstitution under Subsection (a).

20 (s) The commissioner may not order the closure of a campus
21 under this section without giving the campus the opportunity to
22 transition to a Texas community school under Subchapter N, Chapter
23 29, and at least two years to implement the campus's community
24 school plan.

25 SECTION 4. Section 29.259, Education Code, is transferred
26 to Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, and redesignated as
27 Section 29.923, Education Code, to read as follows:

1 Sec. 29.923 [~~29.259~~]. ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND
2 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION CHARTER SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this
3 section, "adult education" means services and instruction provided
4 below the college level for adults by a nonprofit entity described
5 by Subsection (e).

6 (b) The commissioner shall establish an adult high school
7 diploma and industry certification charter school pilot program as
8 provided by this section as a strategy for meeting industry needs
9 for a sufficiently trained workforce within the state.

10 (c) The agency shall adopt and administer a standardized
11 secondary exit-level assessment instrument appropriate for
12 assessing adult education program participants who successfully
13 complete high school curriculum requirements under a program
14 provided under this section. The commissioner shall determine the
15 level of performance considered to be satisfactory on the secondary
16 exit-level assessment instrument for receipt of a high school
17 diploma by an adult education program participant in a program
18 provided under this section.

19 (d) Notwithstanding any other law and in addition to the
20 number of charters allowed under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, a
21 charter under the pilot program may, on the basis of an application
22 submitted, be granted to a single nonprofit entity described by
23 Subsection (e) to provide an adult education program for not more
24 than 150 individuals described by Subsection (g) to successfully
25 complete:

26 (1) a high school program that can lead to a diploma;
27 and

1 (2) career and technology education courses that can
2 lead to industry certification.

3 (e) A nonprofit entity may be granted a charter under this
4 section only if the entity:

5 (1) has a successful history of providing education
6 services, including industry certifications and job placement
7 services, to adults 18 years of age and older whose educational and
8 training opportunities have been limited by educational
9 disadvantages, disabilities, homelessness, criminal history, or
10 similar circumstances; and

11 (2) agrees to commit at least \$1 million to the adult
12 education program offered.

13 (f) A nonprofit entity granted a charter under this section
14 may partner with a public junior college to provide career and
15 technology courses that lead to industry certification.

16 (g) A person who is at least 19 years of age and not more
17 than 50 years of age is eligible to enroll in the adult education
18 program under this section if the person has not earned a high
19 school equivalency certificate and:

20 (1) has failed to complete the curriculum requirements
21 for high school graduation; or

22 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on an
23 assessment instrument required for high school graduation.

24 (h) The nonprofit entity must include in its charter
25 application the information required by Subsection (i).

26 (i) A charter granted under this section must:

27 (1) include a description of the adult education

1 program to be offered under this section; and

2 (2) establish specific, objective standards for
3 receiving a high school diploma, including satisfactory
4 performance on the standardized secondary exit-level assessment
5 instrument described by Subsection (c).

6 (j) Funding for an adult education program under this
7 section is provided based on the following:

8 (1) for participants who are 26 years of age and older,
9 an amount per participant from available general revenue funds
10 appropriated for the pilot program equal to the statewide average
11 amount of state funding per student in weighted average daily
12 attendance that would be allocated under the Foundation School
13 Program to an open-enrollment charter school under Section [12.106](#)
14 were the student under 26 years of age; and

15 (2) for participants who are at least 19 years of age
16 and under 26 years of age, an amount per participant through the
17 Foundation School Program equal to the amount of state funding per
18 student in weighted average daily attendance that would be
19 allocated under the Foundation School Program for the student's
20 attendance at an open-enrollment charter school in accordance with
21 Section [12.106](#).

22 (k) Sections [12.107](#) and [12.128](#) apply as though funds under
23 this section were funds under Subchapter D, Chapter 12.

24 (l) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,
25 beginning December 1, 2016, the agency shall prepare and deliver to
26 the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of
27 representatives, and presiding officer of each standing

1 legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over public
2 education or economic development a report that:

3 (1) evaluates any adult education program operated
4 under a charter granted under this section; and

5 (2) makes recommendations regarding the abolition,
6 continuation, or expansion of the pilot program.

7 (m) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
8 administer the pilot program under this section. In adopting
9 rules, the commissioner may modify charter school requirements only
10 to the extent necessary for the administration of a charter school
11 under this section that provides for adult education.

12 SECTION 5. Section 42.003(a), Education Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (a) A student is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation
15 School Program if, on September 1 of the school year, the student:

16 (1) is 5 years of age or older and under 21 years of age
17 and has not graduated from high school, or is at least 21 years of
18 age and under 26 years of age and has been admitted by a school
19 district to complete the requirements for a high school diploma; or

20 (2) is at least 19 years of age and under 26 years of
21 age and is enrolled in an adult high school diploma and industry
22 certification charter school pilot program under Section 29.923
23 [~~29.259~~].

24 SECTION 6. (a) The heading to Subchapter H, Chapter 29,
25 Education Code, is repealed.

26 (b) Sections 7.021(b)(8), 7.102(c)(17), 29.251, 29.252,
27 29.255, 29.256, and 29.257, Education Code, are repealed.

1 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.