

By: Rodriguez of Travis, VanDeaver

H.B. No. 1892

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1892:

By: Aycock

C.S.H.B. No. 1892

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a Texas community school grant program.

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

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

SUBCHAPTER M. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 29.501. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Community-based organization" means a nonprofit corporation or association located in close proximity to the population the organization serves.

(2) "Texas community school" means 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.

Sec. 29.502. TEXAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The agency shall establish a competitive grant program to assist public elementary, middle, junior high, and high schools in developing community school plans and transitioning into Texas community schools.

(b) From funds appropriated for the purpose, the agency shall award two-year grants to eligible schools. Each grant may not exceed:

1 (1) \$60,000 each academic year to pay the salary and
2 benefits of a full-time community school coordinator; and

3 (2) \$25,000 each academic year to develop and
4 implement a community school plan.

5 (c) On application from a school, a grant awarded under this
6 section may be extended by the agency for an additional year.

7 Sec. 29.503. ELIGIBILITY. A public elementary, middle,
8 junior high, or high school is eligible to apply for a grant under
9 this subchapter if the school demonstrates a commitment to:

10 (1) transitioning into a Texas community school by
11 establishing:

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

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

22 (2) developing and implementing a plan for sustaining
23 the community school plan beyond the end of the grant period.

24 Sec. 29.504. USE OF FUNDS. (a) Funds granted under this
25 subchapter may not be used for direct programs for students or
26 families or for other activities not related to developing or
27 implementing a community school plan.

1 (b) A community school coordinator employed using grant
2 funds must have relevant experience as a school district employee
3 or an employee of a community-based organization with experience in
4 developing and implementing a community school plan and in
5 coordinating the process of developing and implementing such a
6 plan. The coordinator's duties include:

7 (1) recruiting community partners and building
8 community support for the school;

9 (2) coordinating:

10 (A) the school community partnership team's
11 planning and training activities;

12 (B) planning and evaluation efforts between the
13 school and community partners;

14 (C) academic and student and family support
15 programs; and

16 (D) after-school, summer, and enrichment
17 programs for students;

18 (3) encouraging community and parent engagement in the
19 school;

20 (4) seeking available resources for implementing
21 community school programs and services;

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

24 (6) acting as a liaison between the school, other
25 community schools, the school district, and community partners; and

26 (7) developing a plan for sustaining the community
27 school plan beyond the end of the grant period.

1 (c) Before a community school plan may be implemented, the
2 plan must:

3 (1) satisfy the requirements for a campus improvement
4 plan under Section 11.253; and

5 (2) be approved by:

6 (A) at least 75 percent of campus faculty and
7 staff and 75 percent of parents of students enrolled at the school;
8 and

9 (B) the board of trustees of the school district
10 in which the school is located.

11 Sec. 29.505. LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS. If a school with
12 performance below any standard under Section 39.054(e) receives a
13 grant under this subchapter, the school's school community
14 partnership team functions as the campus intervention team for
15 purposes of Section 39.106.

16 Sec. 29.506. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER. (a) The
17 agency shall set aside at least 10 percent of the funds appropriated
18 for the grant program under this subchapter to contract with at
19 least one public or private entity that has experience in
20 developing and implementing a community school plan to act as a
21 technical assistance provider.

22 (b) A technical assistance provider that contracts with the
23 agency under Subsection (a) shall provide:

24 (1) professional development, training, technical
25 assistance, coaching, or quality assurance activities to assist
26 schools awarded a grant under this subchapter in transitioning to a
27 Texas community school, sustaining the community school plan beyond

1 the end of the grant period, and maximizing the effectiveness of the
2 community school plan; and

3 (2) capacity-building training to regional education
4 service centers to enable the centers to support schools awarded a
5 grant under this subchapter in transitioning to a Texas community
6 school and sustaining the community school plan.

7 Sec. 29.507. PROGRAM OVERSIGHT. (a) The agency shall:

8 (1) establish benchmarks and performance measures for
9 determining whether a school awarded a grant under this subchapter
10 has improved since transitioning to a Texas community school; and

11 (2) analyze the school's performance on the expiration
12 of the school's grant.

13 (b) At least once each year, the agency shall:

14 (1) monitor the transition into a Texas community
15 school of each school awarded a grant under this subchapter; and

16 (2) evaluate whether the school has made satisfactory
17 progress toward carrying out the school's objectives as set out in
18 the community school plan.

19 (c) A school that the agency determines has not made
20 satisfactory progress under Subsection (b) may continue to receive
21 grant funds under this subchapter only if the school:

22 (1) amends the school's community school plan to
23 address any deficiencies the agency identified during the
24 evaluation; and

25 (2) demonstrates strong community support for the
26 school's transition to a Texas community school.

27 Sec. 29.508. RULES. The commissioner shall adopt rules as

1 necessary to implement this subchapter.

2 SECTION 2. Section 29.259, Education Code, is transferred
3 to Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, and redesignated as
4 Section 29.923, Education Code, to read as follows:

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

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

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

23 (d) Notwithstanding any other law and in addition to the
24 number of charters allowed under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, a
25 charter under the pilot program may, on the basis of an application
26 submitted, be granted to a single nonprofit entity described by
27 Subsection (e) to provide an adult education program for not more

1 than 150 individuals described by Subsection (g) to successfully
2 complete:

3 (1) a high school program that can lead to a diploma;

4 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (1) include a description of the adult education
5 program to be offered under this section; and

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

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

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

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

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

1 (1) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,
2 beginning December 1, 2016, the agency shall prepare and deliver to
3 the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of
4 representatives, and presiding officer of each standing
5 legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over public
6 education or economic development a report that:

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

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

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

16 SECTION 3. Section [42.003\(a\)](#), Education Code, is amended to
17 read as follows:

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

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

24 (2) is at least 19 years of age and under 26 years of
25 age and is enrolled in an adult high school diploma and industry
26 certification charter school pilot program under Section [29.923](#)

27 ~~[29.259](#)~~].

1 SECTION 4. (a) The heading to Subchapter H, Chapter 29,
2 Education Code, is repealed.

3 (b) Sections 7.021(b)(8), 7.102(c)(17), 29.251, 29.252,
4 29.255, 29.256, and 29.257, Education Code, are repealed.

5 SECTION 5. The Texas Education Agency shall establish the
6 grant program under Subchapter M, Chapter 29, Education Code, as
7 added by this Act, not later than November 1, 2015.

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