

By: Zerwas, Clardy

H.B. No. 1992

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the granting of undergraduate course credit by advanced  
3 placement examination at public institutions of higher education.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 51.968, Education Code, is amended by  
6 adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

7 (c-1) In establishing the minimum required score on an  
8 Advanced Placement examination for granting course credit for a  
9 particular lower-division course under Subsection (c), an  
10 institution of higher education may not require a score of more than  
11 three unless the institution's chief academic officer determines,  
12 based on evidence, that a higher score on the examination is  
13 necessary to indicate a student is sufficiently prepared to be  
14 successful in a related, more advanced course for which the  
15 lower-division course is a prerequisite.

16 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
17 amended by adding Section 61.0518 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 61.0518. STUDY ON UNDERGRADUATE COURSE CREDIT FOR  
19 ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS. (a) In this section, "Advanced  
20 Placement examination" has the meaning assigned by Section 51.968.

21 (b) The board, in consultation with institutions of higher  
22 education, the board's Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee,  
23 and other interested parties, shall conduct a study on the  
24 performance of undergraduate students at institutions of higher

1 education who receive undergraduate course credit for achieving  
2 required scores on one or more Advanced Placement examinations.

3 (c) The study must compare the academic performance,  
4 retention rates, and graduation rates at institutions of higher  
5 education of students who complete a lower-division course at an  
6 institution and students who receive credit for that course for a  
7 score of three or more on an Advanced Placement examination,  
8 disaggregated by score.

9 (d) Each institution of higher education shall submit to the  
10 board any data requested by the board as necessary for the board to  
11 carry out its duties under this section.

12 (e) Not later than January 1, 2017, the board shall submit  
13 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house  
14 of representatives, and the standing legislative committees with  
15 primary jurisdiction over higher education a progress report that  
16 examines the performance of students who previously received  
17 undergraduate course credit for a three on one or more Advanced  
18 Placement examinations and any recommendations for legislative or  
19 administrative action.

20 (f) Not later than January 1, 2019, the board shall submit  
21 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house  
22 of representatives, and the standing legislative committees with  
23 primary jurisdiction over higher education a report regarding the  
24 results of the study in Section 61.0518(c) and any recommendations  
25 for legislative or administrative action.

26 (g) The board shall adopt rules as necessary to implement  
27 this section in a manner that ensures compliance with federal law

1 regarding confidentiality of student educational information,  
2 including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20  
3 U.S.C. Section 1232g).

4 (h) This section expires September 1, 2017.

5 SECTION 3. Section 51.968(c-1), Education Code, as added by  
6 this Act, applies to entering freshman students at institutions of  
7 higher education beginning with the 2016 fall semester.

8 SECTION 4. 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.