

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 1190

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 under  
9 Subsection (c), an institution of higher education may not require  
10 a score of more than three unless the institution determines that  
11 there is a compelling academic reason for requiring a higher score  
12 on that examination or to receive credit for a particular course.

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

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

18 (b) Biennially, the board shall conduct a study on the  
19 performance of undergraduate students at institutions of higher  
20 education who receive undergraduate course credit for achieving  
21 required scores on one or more Advanced Placement examinations.

22 (c) The study must compare the academic performance,  
23 retention rates, and graduation rates at institutions of higher  
24 education of students who receive course credit for a score of three

1 on an Advanced Placement examination and students who receive  
2 course credit for a score of four or five on that examination.

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

6 (e) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
7 board shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the  
8 speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing  
9 legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher  
10 education a report regarding the results of the study and any  
11 recommendations for legislative or administrative action.

12 (f) The board shall adopt rules as necessary to implement  
13 this section in a manner that ensures compliance with federal law  
14 regarding confidentiality of student educational information,  
15 including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20  
16 U.S.C. Section 1232g).

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

21 (b) Not later than January 1, 2017, the Texas Higher  
22 Education Coordinating Board shall submit its initial report  
23 required by Section 61.0518(e), Education Code, as added by this  
24 Act.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.