

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 173

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to higher education curriculum review teams to review  
3 public school curriculum standards for college readiness purposes.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 28.0025 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 28.0025. HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM REVIEW TEAMS.

8 (a) In this section:

9 (1) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

10 (2) "Institution of higher education" and "private or  
11 independent institution of higher education" have the meanings  
12 assigned by Section 61.003.

13 (b) For each subject undergoing a review for the purpose of  
14 identifying and adopting the essential knowledge and skills of a  
15 subject of the foundation curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1),  
16 the board shall appoint a higher education curriculum review team  
17 to review and make recommendations to the board concerning the  
18 essential knowledge and skills to ensure that proposed essential  
19 knowledge and skills:

20 (1) are factually accurate and aligned with  
21 contemporary scholarship;

22 (2) are aligned with college and career readiness  
23 standards and serve to prepare students for college; and

24 (3) serve appropriate instructional purposes.

1       (c) Each higher education curriculum review team shall  
2 consist of not fewer than 5 and not more than 10 faculty members of  
3 institutions of higher education or private or independent  
4 institutions of higher education. The board shall make the  
5 appointments to each higher education curriculum review team from  
6 among persons nominated by the commissioner or the commissioner of  
7 higher education.

8       (d) Each member nominated by the commissioner must have in  
9 the subject under review:

10           (1) at least five years of teaching experience; and

11           (2) credentials that satisfy the faculty credential  
12 guidelines established by the Commission on Colleges of the  
13 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

14       (e) Each member nominated by the commissioner of higher  
15 education must have in the subject under review:

16           (1) at least five years of higher education teaching  
17 experience; and

18           (2) credentials that satisfy the faculty credential  
19 guidelines established by the Commission on Colleges of the  
20 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

21       (f) In selecting their respective nominees for a higher  
22 education curriculum review team, the commissioner and the  
23 commissioner of higher education shall each:

24           (1) attempt to achieve a balanced combination of  
25 educational perspectives, including by geographic area, race, and  
26 sex; and

27           (2) give preference to nominees who have teaching

1 experience in this state at an institution of higher education or a  
2 private or independent institution of higher education.

3 (g) At times and places determined by the chair of the  
4 board, before and after the board considers on first reading  
5 proposed essential knowledge and skills of a subject for which a  
6 higher education curriculum review team has been appointed under  
7 this section, that higher education curriculum review team shall  
8 meet to review the proposed essential knowledge and skills. The  
9 team shall submit to the board the results of the team's review and  
10 any recommendations for changes. The board may consider the team's  
11 recommendations in adopting the proposed essential knowledge and  
12 skills.

13 (h) The agency shall post on the agency's Internet website  
14 the recommendations of each higher education curriculum review  
15 team.

16 (i) The commissioner and the commissioner of higher  
17 education shall coordinate with the board as necessary for the  
18 administration of this section.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
23 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
24 legislative session.