

By: Bernal

H.B. No. 3593

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to instruction in career and technology education provided
3 by public schools, including instruction in technology
4 applications, cybersecurity, and computer coding, and to
5 consideration of completed practicums and internships in school
6 accountability ratings.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by
9 amending Subsections (a), (f), and (g-2) and adding Subsection
10 (g-3) to read as follows:

11 (a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through
12 grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

13 (1) a foundation curriculum that includes:

14 (A) English language arts;

15 (B) mathematics;

16 (C) science; and

17 (D) social studies, consisting of Texas, United
18 States, and world history, government, economics, with emphasis on
19 the free enterprise system and its benefits, and geography; and

20 (2) an enrichment curriculum that includes:

21 (A) to the extent possible, languages other than
22 English;

23 (B) health, with emphasis on the importance of
24 proper nutrition and exercise;

- 1 (C) physical education;
- 2 (D) fine arts;
- 3 (E) career and technology education, including ~~+~~
- 4 ~~(F)~~ technology applications;
- 5 (F) ~~(G)~~ religious literature, including the
- 6 Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact
- 7 on history and literature; and
- 8 (G) ~~(H)~~ personal financial literacy.

9 (f) A school district may offer courses for local credit in
10 addition to those in the required curriculum. The State Board of
11 Education shall:

- 12 (1) be flexible in approving a course for credit for
- 13 high school graduation under this subsection; and
- 14 (2) approve courses in cybersecurity for credit for
- 15 high school graduation under this subsection.

16 (g-2) Each school district shall annually report to the
17 agency the names of the courses, programs, institutions of higher
18 education, and internships in which the district's students have
19 enrolled under Subsection (g-1) and the names of the courses and
20 institutions of higher education in which the district's students
21 have enrolled under Subsection (g-3). The agency shall make
22 available information provided under this subsection to other
23 districts.

24 (g-3) A district may also offer a course that is approved by
25 the board of trustees for credit without obtaining State Board of
26 Education approval if the district partners with a public or
27 private institution of higher education that offers an

1 undergraduate degree program in cybersecurity to develop and
2 provide the course.

3 SECTION 2. Sections 28.025(b-12), (b-14), and (c-1),
4 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

5 (b-12) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
6 Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student to comply
7 with the curriculum requirements for the two credits in a language
8 other than English required under Subsection (b-1)(5) by
9 substituting two credits in computer programming languages,
10 including computer coding.

11 (b-14) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State
12 Board of Education shall allow a student who, due to disability, is
13 unable to complete two courses in the same language in a language
14 other than English, as provided under Subsection (b-1)(5), to
15 substitute for those credits two credits in English language arts,
16 mathematics, science, or social studies or two credits in career
17 and technology education, including technology applications, or
18 other academic electives. A credit allowed to be substituted under
19 this subsection may not also be used by the student to satisfy a
20 graduation credit requirement other than credit for completion of a
21 language other than English. The rules must provide that the
22 determination regarding a student's ability to participate in
23 language-other-than-English courses will be made by:

24 (1) if the student receives special education services
25 under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the student's admission, review,
26 and dismissal committee; or

27 (2) if the student does not receive special education

1 services under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, but is covered by Section
2 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), the
3 committee established for the student under that Act.

4 (c-1) A student may earn an endorsement on the student's
5 transcript by successfully completing curriculum requirements for
6 that endorsement adopted by the State Board of Education by rule.
7 The State Board of Education by rule shall provide students with
8 multiple options for earning each endorsement, including, to the
9 greatest extent possible, coherent sequences of courses. The
10 State Board of Education by rule must permit a student to enroll in
11 courses under more than one endorsement curriculum before the
12 student's junior year. An endorsement under this subsection may be
13 earned in any of the following categories:

14 (1) science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
15 (STEM), which includes courses directly related to science,
16 including environmental science, technology, including computer
17 science, cybersecurity, and computer coding, engineering, and
18 advanced mathematics;

19 (2) business and industry, which includes courses
20 directly related to database management, information technology,
21 communications, accounting, finance, marketing, graphic design,
22 architecture, construction, welding, logistics, automotive
23 technology, agricultural science, and heating, ventilation, and
24 air conditioning;

25 (3) public services, which includes courses directly
26 related to health sciences and occupations, mental health,
27 education and training, law enforcement, and culinary arts and

1 hospitality;

2 (4) arts and humanities, which includes courses
3 directly related to political science, world languages, cultural
4 studies, English literature, history, and fine arts; and

5 (5) multidisciplinary studies, which allows a student
6 to:

7 (A) select courses from the curriculum of each
8 endorsement area described by Subdivisions (1) through (4); and

9 (B) earn credits in a variety of advanced courses
10 from multiple content areas sufficient to complete the
11 distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school
12 program.

13 SECTION 3. Section 28.027(a), Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (a) In this section, "applied STEM course" means an applied
16 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics course offered as
17 part of a school district's career and technology education [~~or~~
18 ~~technology applications~~] curriculum, including technology
19 applications components of that curriculum.

20 SECTION 4. Section 29.190, Education Code, is amended by
21 adding Subsection (b) and amending Subsection (c) to read as
22 follows:

23 (b) A teacher is entitled to a subsidy under this section if
24 the teacher passes a certification examination related to
25 cybersecurity.

26 (c) On approval by the commissioner, the agency shall pay
27 each school district an amount equal to the cost paid by the

1 district for a [~~the~~] certification examination under this
2 section. To obtain reimbursement for a subsidy paid under this
3 section, a district must:

- 4 (1) pay the fee for the examination; and
- 5 (2) submit to the commissioner a written application
6 on a form prescribed by the commissioner stating the amount of the
7 fee paid under Subdivision (1) for the certification examination.

8 SECTION 5. Section 39.0235(f), Education Code, is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (f) The assessment instrument adopted under Subsection (d)
11 must:

- 12 (1) be administered online;
- 13 (2) be aligned with the relevant essential knowledge
14 and skills requirements for career and technology education
15 relating to technology applications; and
- 16 (3) incorporate performance-based measures, including
17 a requirement that students perform certain technological tasks and
18 respond to questions based on the completion of those tasks.

19 SECTION 6. Section 39.053(c), Education Code, is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (c) School districts and campuses must be evaluated based on
22 five domains of indicators of achievement adopted under this
23 section that include:

- 24 (1) in the first domain, the results of:
 - 25 (A) assessment instruments required under
26 Sections 39.023(a), (c), and (l), including the results of
27 assessment instruments required for graduation retaken by a

1 student, aggregated across grade levels by subject area, including:

2 (i) for the performance standard determined
3 by the commissioner under Section 39.0241(a), the percentage of
4 students who performed satisfactorily on the assessment
5 instruments, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

6 (ii) for the college readiness performance
7 standard as determined under Section 39.0241, the percentage of
8 students who performed satisfactorily on the assessment
9 instruments, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

10 (B) assessment instruments required under
11 Section 39.023(b), aggregated across grade levels by subject area,
12 including the percentage of students who performed satisfactorily
13 on the assessment instruments, as determined by the performance
14 standard adopted by the agency, aggregated across grade levels by
15 subject area;

16 (2) in the second domain:

17 (A) for assessment instruments under Subdivision
18 (1)(A):

19 (i) for the performance standard determined
20 by the commissioner under Section 39.0241(a), the percentage of
21 students who met the standard for annual improvement on the
22 assessment instruments, as determined by the commissioner by rule
23 or by the method for measuring annual improvement under Section
24 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

25 (ii) for the college readiness performance
26 standard as determined under Section 39.0241, the percentage of
27 students who met the standard for annual improvement on the

1 assessment instruments, as determined by the commissioner by rule
2 or by the method for measuring annual improvement under Section
3 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

4 (B) for assessment instruments under Subdivision
5 (1)(B), the percentage of students who met the standard for annual
6 improvement on the assessment instruments, as determined by the
7 commissioner by rule or by the method for measuring annual
8 improvement under Section 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by
9 subject area;

10 (3) in the third domain, the student academic
11 achievement differentials among students from different racial and
12 ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds;

13 (4) in the fourth domain:

14 (A) for evaluating the performance of high school
15 campuses and districts that include high school campuses:

16 (i) dropout rates, including dropout rates
17 and district completion rates for grade levels 9 through 12,
18 computed in accordance with standards and definitions adopted by
19 the National Center for Education Statistics of the United States
20 Department of Education;

21 (ii) high school graduation rates, computed
22 in accordance with standards and definitions adopted in compliance
23 with the Every Student Succeeds Act [~~No Child Left Behind Act of~~
24 ~~2001~~] (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et seq.);

25 (iii) the percentage of students who
26 successfully completed the curriculum requirements for the
27 distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school

1 program;

2 (iv) the percentage of students who
3 successfully completed the curriculum requirements for an
4 endorsement under Section 28.025(c-1);

5 (v) the percentage of students who
6 completed a coherent sequence of career and technical courses;

7 (vi) the percentage of students who satisfy
8 the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks
9 prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under
10 Section 51.3062(f) on an assessment instrument in reading, writing,
11 or mathematics designated by the Texas Higher Education
12 Coordinating Board under Section 51.3062(c);

13 (vii) the percentage of students who earn
14 at least 12 hours of postsecondary credit required for the
15 foundation high school program under Section 28.025 or to earn an
16 endorsement under Section 28.025(c-1);

17 (viii) the percentage of students who have
18 completed an advanced placement course;

19 (ix) the percentage of students who enlist
20 in the armed forces of the United States; ~~and~~

21 (x) the percentage of students who earn an
22 industry certification; and

23 (xi) the percentage of students who
24 successfully completed a practicum or internship approved by the
25 State Board of Education;

26 (B) for evaluating the performance of middle and
27 junior high school and elementary school campuses and districts

1 that include those campuses:

2 (i) student attendance; and

3 (ii) for middle and junior high school
4 campuses:

5 (a) dropout rates, computed in the
6 manner described by Paragraph (A)(i); and

7 (b) the percentage of students in
8 grades seven and eight who receive instruction in preparing for
9 high school, college, and a career that includes information
10 regarding the creation of a high school personal graduation plan
11 under Section 28.02121, the distinguished level of achievement
12 described by Section 28.025(b-15), each endorsement described by
13 Section 28.025(c-1), college readiness standards, and potential
14 career choices and the education needed to enter those careers; and

15 (C) any additional indicators of student
16 achievement not associated with performance on standardized
17 assessment instruments determined appropriate for consideration by
18 the commissioner in consultation with educators, parents, business
19 and industry representatives, and employers; and

20 (5) in the fifth domain, three programs or specific
21 categories of performance related to community and student
22 engagement locally selected and evaluated as provided by Section
23 39.0546.

24 SECTION 7. Section 42.158, Education Code, is amended by
25 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

26 (a-1) A school district entitled to an allotment under this
27 section may use funds from the district's allotment to renovate an

1 existing instructional facility to serve as a dedicated
2 cybersecurity computer laboratory.

3 SECTION 8. Section 56.3041(a), Education Code, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 (a) To be eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person
6 graduating from high school on or after May 1, 2013, and enrolling
7 in an eligible institution must:

8 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
9 coordinating board rules;

10 (2) meet the academic requirements prescribed by
11 Paragraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) as follows:

12 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
13 private high school in this state who completed the foundation high
14 school program established under Section 28.025 or its equivalent
15 and have accomplished any two or more of the following:

16 (i) successful completion of the course
17 requirements of the international baccalaureate diploma program or
18 earning of the equivalent of at least 12 semester credit hours of
19 college credit in high school through courses described in Sections
20 28.009(a)(1), (2), and (3);

21 (ii) satisfaction of the Texas Success
22 Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks prescribed by the
23 coordinating board under Section 51.3062(f) on any assessment
24 instrument designated by the coordinating board under Section
25 51.3062(c) or qualification for an exemption as described by
26 Section 51.3062(p), (q), or (q-1);

27 (iii) graduation in the top one-third of

1 the person's high school graduating class or graduation from high
2 school with a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point
3 scale or the equivalent; or

4 (iv) completion for high school credit of
5 at least one advanced mathematics course following the successful
6 completion of an Algebra II course or at least one advanced career
7 and technical [~~or technology applications~~] course, including a
8 course in technology applications;

9 (B) have received an associate degree from a
10 public or private institution of higher education;

11 (C) be an undergraduate student who has:

12 (i) previously attended another
13 institution of higher education;

14 (ii) received an initial Texas Educational
15 Opportunity Grant under Subchapter P for the 2014 fall semester or a
16 subsequent academic term;

17 (iii) completed at least 24 semester credit
18 hours at any institution or institutions of higher education; and

19 (iv) earned an overall grade point average
20 of at least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on all
21 course work previously attempted; or

22 (D) if sufficient money is available, meet the
23 eligibility criteria described by Section 56.304(a)(2)(A);

24 (3) meet financial need requirements established by
25 the coordinating board;

26 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
27 certificate program at an eligible institution;

1 (5) except as provided under rules adopted under
2 Section 56.304(h), be enrolled as:

3 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at
4 least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
5 coordinating board, not later than the 16th month after the
6 calendar month in which the person graduated from high school;

7 (B) an entering undergraduate student who
8 entered military service not later than the first anniversary of
9 the date the person graduated from high school and who enrolled for
10 at least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
11 coordinating board, at the eligible institution not later than 12
12 months after being honorably discharged from military service;

13 (C) a continuing undergraduate student for at
14 least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
15 coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the
16 calendar month in which the person received an associate degree
17 from a public or private institution of higher education; or

18 (D) an undergraduate student described by
19 Subdivision (2)(C) who has never previously received a TEXAS grant;

20 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
21 assistance; and

22 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic
23 requirements adopted by the coordinating board under this
24 subchapter.

25 SECTION 9. Section 61.0517(a), Education Code, is amended
26 to read as follows:

27 (a) In this section, "applied STEM course" means an applied

1 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics course offered as
2 part of a school district's career and technology education [~~or~~
3 ~~technology—applications~~] curriculum, including technology
4 applications components of that curriculum, and approved, as
5 provided by Section 28.027, by the State Board of Education for
6 purposes of satisfying the mathematics and science curriculum
7 requirements for the foundation high school program under Section
8 28.025.

9 SECTION 10. Section 135.04, Education Code, is amended by
10 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

11 (d) A cybersecurity program provided by a campus or
12 extension center in partnership with a school district to students
13 enrolled in the district is not subject to the approval of the
14 coordinating board under this section.

15 SECTION 11. As soon as practicable after the effective date
16 of this Act, the State Board of Education shall by rule modify the
17 essential knowledge and skills of the career and technology
18 education curriculum to include the essential knowledge and skills
19 of the technology applications curriculum to conform with Section
20 28.002(a), Education Code, as amended by this Act.

21 SECTION 12. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
22 school year.

23 SECTION 13. This Act takes effect immediately if it
24 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
25 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
26 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
27 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.