

By: Taylor of Galveston

S.B. No. 1278

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to educator preparation programs.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.045, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish standards to govern the continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs based on the following information that is disaggregated with respect to race, sex, and ethnicity:

(1) results of the certification examinations prescribed under Section 21.048(a), except as provided by Subsection (a-1);

(2) performance based on the appraisal system for beginning teachers adopted by the board;

(3) achievement, including improvement in achievement, of students taught by beginning teachers for the first three years following certification, to the extent practicable;

(4) compliance with board requirements regarding the frequency, duration, and quality of structural guidance and ongoing support provided by field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship, provided that the board:

(A) must permit a program to comply with at least

1 three of any field supervisor visit requirements through visits
2 provided by video, the Internet, or another remote technological
3 method; and

4 (B) may not require more than five support visits
5 by a field supervisor during the course of an internship; and

6 (5) results from a teacher satisfaction survey,
7 developed by the board with stakeholder input, of new teachers
8 performed at the end of the teacher's first year of teaching.

9 (a-1) Results on a content examination required for
10 certification in a subject area are not included for purposes of
11 Subsection (a)(1) if the subject area is determined by the agency,
12 based on information maintained by the agency and subject to
13 approval by the United States Department of Education, to be a
14 teacher shortage area.

15 SECTION 2. Section 21.051(b), Education Code, is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (b) Before a school district may employ a candidate for
18 certification as a teacher of record, the candidate must complete
19 at least 15 hours of field-based experience, which may occur after
20 the candidate's admission to an educator preparation program or
21 during the two years preceding admission. The field-based
22 experience may be satisfied by observing a teacher certified by
23 this state ~~[in which the candidate is]~~ actively engaged in
24 instructional or educational activities, or by serving as a
25 substitute teacher or teacher's aide, [under supervision] at:

26 (1) a public school campus accredited or approved for
27 the purpose by the agency; or

1 (2) a private school recognized or approved for the
2 purpose by the agency.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.