By:  Menéndez S.B. No. 1539

(In the Senate - Filed March 5, 2019; March 14, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border Security; April 9, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; April 9, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Campbell        X

Hall                X

Johnson         X

Lucio           X

Menéndez        X

Schwertner      X

Seliger         X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a pilot program for certain students who are veterans.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter F, Chapter 130, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 130.095 to read as follows:

Sec. 130.095.  VETERAN INTEREST GROUPS PILOT PROGRAM. (a)  The Alamo Community College District shall implement a pilot program to establish veteran interest groups for students enrolled in the district who are veterans.

(b)  The district shall ensure that students assigned to a group established under the pilot program enroll in at least three of the same classes as the other students assigned to the group.

(c)  Students assigned to a group established under the pilot program shall attend a weekly seminar led by a peer mentor and a staff facilitator in which the students:

(1)  learn content related to the needs of students who are veterans;

(2)  discuss study and time management strategies and other issues;

(3)  engage in campus life and other involvement opportunities; and

(4)  participate in social opportunities.

(d)  Not later than January 1, 2021, the district shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of the pilot program in promoting the success of students who are veterans and submit the report to the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher education matters and matters concerning veterans affairs.

(e)  This section expires September 1, 2021.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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