

By: Lozano

H.B. No. 3819

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the alignment of courses between educational entities  
in this state.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter S, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
amended by adding Section 61.834 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.834. REGIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR COURSE SEQUENCING.

(a) The board, in coordination with the Texas Education Agency,  
shall divide the state into regions for the purpose of establishing  
a regional consortium among the institutions of higher education  
and school districts located within each region. Each consortium  
shall facilitate the development of sequences of courses toward the  
25 degree programs at general academic teaching institutions with  
the greatest student enrollment in each region, as identified by  
the board under Subsection (b), and the alignment of each  
endorsement described by Section 28.025(c-1) with degree plans for  
those degree programs.

(b) For the purposes of this section, each general academic  
teaching institution shall annually identify and report to the  
board the 25 degree programs with the greatest student enrollment  
at the institution. The board shall compile the information the  
board receives from the general academic teaching institutions in  
each regional consortium and report to each consortium the 25  
degree programs at general academic teaching institutions in that

1 consortium with the greatest overall student enrollment.

2 (c) For the purposes of this section, the release of student  
3 information, including course, grade, and credit information,  
4 between the institutions of higher education and the school  
5 districts belonging to a regional consortium established under this  
6 section serves the legitimate educational interest of a student for  
7 whom consent would otherwise be required under the Family  
8 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section  
9 1232g).

10 (d) The board and the Texas Education Agency shall adopt  
11 rules for the operation of a regional consortium established under  
12 this section.

13 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 1, 2020, the Texas  
14 Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Education Agency  
15 shall establish the regional consortiums required by Section  
16 61.834, Education Code, as added by this Act.

17 (b) Each regional consortium shall develop the course  
18 sequences and the alignment of endorsement plans required under  
19 Section 61.834, Education Code, as added by this Act, to apply  
20 beginning with course selection for the 2023-2024 academic year.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.