

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 4589

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the provision of a quality and globally competitive
3 education as a mission of the public education system.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 4.001, Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 4.001. PUBLIC EDUCATION MISSION AND OBJECTIVES. (a)
8 The mission of the public education system of this state is to
9 ensure that all Texas children have access to a quality and globally
10 competitive education that enables them to achieve their potential
11 and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic,
12 and educational opportunities of our state and nation. That mission
13 is grounded on the conviction that a general diffusion of knowledge
14 is essential for the welfare of this state and for the preservation
15 of the liberties and rights of citizens. It is further grounded on
16 the conviction that a successful public education system is
17 directly related to a strong, dedicated, and supportive family and
18 that parental involvement in the school is essential for the
19 maximum educational achievement of a child.

20 (b) The objectives of public education are:

21 OBJECTIVE 1: Parents will be full partners with educators in
22 the education of their children.

23 OBJECTIVE 2: Students will be encouraged and challenged to
24 meet their full educational potential.

1 OBJECTIVE 3: Through enhanced dropout prevention efforts,
2 all students will remain in school until they obtain a high school
3 diploma.

4 OBJECTIVE 4: A well-balanced and appropriate curriculum will
5 be provided to all students. Through that curriculum, students will
6 be prepared to succeed in a variety of postsecondary activities,
7 including employment and enrollment in institutions of higher
8 education.

9 OBJECTIVE 5: Educators will prepare students to be
10 thoughtful, active citizens who have an appreciation for the basic
11 values of our state and national heritage and who can understand and
12 productively function in a free enterprise society.

13 OBJECTIVE 6: Qualified and highly effective personnel will be
14 recruited, developed, and retained.

15 OBJECTIVE 7: The state's students will demonstrate exemplary
16 performance in comparison to national and international standards.

17 OBJECTIVE 8: School campuses will maintain a safe and
18 disciplined environment conducive to student learning.

19 OBJECTIVE 9: Educators will keep abreast of the development
20 of creative and innovative techniques in instruction and
21 administration using those techniques as appropriate to improve
22 student learning.

23 OBJECTIVE 10: Technology will be implemented and used to
24 increase the effectiveness of student learning, instructional
25 management, staff development, and administration.

26 OBJECTIVE 11: The State Board of Education, the agency, and
27 the commissioner shall assist school districts and charter schools

1 in providing career and technology education to students.

2 OBJECTIVE 12: After obtaining a high school diploma, students
3 will earn certificates or degrees from institutions of higher
4 education in order to compete globally and participate in the
5 dynamic economy of this state and nation.

6 SECTION 2. Section 4.0012, Texas Education Code, is hereby
7 added as follows:

8 Sec. 4.0012. PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS. (a) During
9 each regular legislative session, the legislature shall establish
10 quantifiable educational standards recommended by the Texas
11 Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
12 that public schools must satisfy during each year of the applicable
13 biennium for the system of public free schools to remain globally
14 competitive. The standards take effect for the school year
15 beginning in the fall of the fifth year following the legislative
16 session in which the standards were established.

17 (b) The standards required by Subsection (a) of this section
18 may not be amended, revised, or repealed except by an affirmative
19 vote of two-thirds of the membership of each house of the
20 legislature.

21 SECTION 3. Section 4.0013, Texas Education Code, is hereby
22 added as follows:

23 Sec. 4.0013. (a) Notwithstanding Section 4.001(a) of this
24 Chapter, the system of public free schools is not required to be
25 globally competitive until the 2025-2026 school year.

26 (b) The standards established by the legislature during
27 each regular session as required by Section 4.0012(a) of this

1 chapter must include quantifiable requirements that, when
2 achieved, result in at least 60 percent of all state residents who
3 are older than 24 years of age and younger than 35 years of age
4 holding a certificate or degree from an institution of higher
5 education not later than 2030.

6 (d) This subsection expires January 1, 2031.

7 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
8 school year.

9 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.