

By: Meyer

H.B. No. 4615

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain performance-based incentives and teacher education and development initiatives administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 62, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER I. PERFORMANCE-BASED INCENTIVES AND TEACHER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Sec. 62.181. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

Sec. 62.182. FUNDING. The legislature may appropriate funding for programs established under this subchapter from any available source.

Sec. 62.183. PERFORMANCE-BASED INCENTIVES. (a) From funds appropriated for the purpose, the coordinating board shall provide performance-based incentives to institutions of higher education based on the achievement of progress toward the goals established under the state's master plan for higher education developed under Section 61.051. The coordinating board shall include adult education, including vocational education, provided by the Windham School District in the incentive measures developed under this section.

(b) The coordinating board shall determine eligibility

1 criteria for and the amount of a performance-based incentive  
2 provided under this section.

3 Sec. 62.184. TEACHER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
4 INITIATIVES. (a) The coordinating board shall provide grants or  
5 other funding to support teacher education and development  
6 initiatives.

7 (b) The initiatives may include:

8 (1) development of or support for high quality  
9 professional development for teachers to increase teacher quality  
10 and student outcomes;

11 (2) student loan forgiveness programs for  
12 high-performing students who graduate from an institution of higher  
13 education and who commit to teaching in the public schools in this  
14 state for at least eight years immediately following graduation;

15 (3) the development of a teaching associate degree  
16 program at institutions of higher education that incorporates a  
17 two-year intensive teaching mentorship under a high-performing  
18 teacher and that leads to a teacher certification under Subchapter  
19 B, Chapter 21; or

20 (4) a competitive grant program for high-performing  
21 teachers at public schools in this state to support grant  
22 recipients' proposals for innovative or promising projects to  
23 improve teacher quality or effectiveness, including projects to  
24 improve or develop best instructional practices, dual language  
25 instruction, professional development curricula for career and  
26 technical education teachers, and conferences or other measures to  
27 promote best pedagogical practices.

1        (c) The coordinating board shall determine eligibility  
2 criteria for and the amount of funding provided for each initiative  
3 under this section.

4        Sec. 62.185. RULES. The coordinating board shall adopt  
5 rules for the administration of this subchapter.

6        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.