

By: Powell

S.B. No. 1276

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an agreement between a school district and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program to high school students enrolled in the district.

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

SECTION 1. Section 28.009(b-2), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-2) Any agreement, including a memorandum of understanding or articulation agreement, between a school district and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program described by Subsection (b-1) must:

(1) include specific program goals aligned with the statewide goals developed under Subsection (b-1);

(2) establish common advising strategies and terminology related to dual credit and college readiness;

(3) provide for the alignment of endorsements described by Section 28.025(c-1) offered by the district, and dual credit courses offered under the agreement that apply towards those endorsements, with postsecondary pathways and credentials at the institution and industry certifications;

(4) identify tools, including tools developed by the agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, or the Texas Workforce Commission, to assist school counselors, students, and families in selecting endorsements offered by the district and dual

1 credit courses offered under the agreement;

2 (5) establish, or provide a procedure for
3 establishing, the course credits that may be earned under the
4 agreement, including by developing a course equivalency crosswalk
5 or other method for equating high school courses with college
6 courses and identifying the number of credits that may be earned for
7 each course completed through the program;

8 (6) [~~(3)~~] describe the academic supports and, if
9 applicable, guidance that will be provided to students
10 participating in the program;

11 (7) [~~(4)~~] establish the district's and the
12 institution's respective roles and responsibilities in providing
13 the program and ensuring the quality and instructional rigor of the
14 program;

15 (8) [~~(5)~~] state the sources of funding for courses
16 offered under the program, including, at a minimum, the sources of
17 funding for tuition, transportation, and any required fees or
18 textbooks for students participating in the program; and

19 (9) [~~(6)~~] be posted each year on the district's and the
20 institution's respective Internet websites.

21 SECTION 2. Section 28.009(b-2), Education Code, as amended
22 by this Act, applies only to an agreement to provide a dual credit
23 program entered into or renewed on or after September 1, 2019. An
24 agreement to provide a dual credit program entered into or renewed
25 before September 1, 2019, is governed by the law as it existed at
26 the time the agreement was entered into or renewed, and the former
27 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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