

By: Campbell, Kolthorst

S.B. No. 1776

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the inclusion of an elective course on the founding
3 principles of the United States in the curriculum for public high
4 school students and the posting of the founding documents of the
5 United States in public school buildings.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 11, Education Code, is
8 amended by adding Section 11.173 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 11.173. POSTING OF FOUNDING DOCUMENTS. The board of
10 trustees of an independent school district shall permit and
11 encourage the posting in a district classroom or school building of
12 a copy of the founding documents of the United States, including the
13 Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the
14 Federalist Papers, and the writings of the Founding Fathers of the
15 United States.

16 SECTION 2. Section 12.104(b), Education Code, as amended by
17 Chapters 324 (S.B. 1488), 522 (S.B. 179), and 735 (S.B. 1153), Acts
18 of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, is reenacted and
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (b) An open-enrollment charter school is subject to:

21 (1) a provision of this title establishing a criminal
22 offense; and

23 (2) a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as
24 applicable, imposed by this title or a rule adopted under this

- 1 title, relating to:
- 2 (A) the Public Education Information Management
3 System (PEIMS) to the extent necessary to monitor compliance with
4 this subchapter as determined by the commissioner;
 - 5 (B) criminal history records under Subchapter C,
6 Chapter 22;
 - 7 (C) reading instruments and accelerated reading
8 instruction programs under Section 28.006;
 - 9 (D) accelerated instruction under Section
10 28.0211;
 - 11 (E) high school graduation requirements under
12 Section 28.025;
 - 13 (F) special education programs under Subchapter
14 A, Chapter 29;
 - 15 (G) bilingual education under Subchapter B,
16 Chapter 29;
 - 17 (H) prekindergarten programs under Subchapter E
18 or E-1, Chapter 29;
 - 19 (I) extracurricular activities under Section
20 33.081;
 - 21 (J) discipline management practices or behavior
22 management techniques under Section 37.0021;
 - 23 (K) health and safety under Chapter 38;
 - 24 (L) public school accountability under
25 Subchapters B, C, D, F, G, and J, Chapter 39, and Chapter 39A;
 - 26 (M) the requirement under Section 21.006 to
27 report an educator's misconduct;

1 (N) intensive programs of instruction under
2 Section 28.0213;

3 (O) the right of a school employee to report a
4 crime, as provided by Section 37.148; ~~and~~

5 (P) bullying prevention policies and procedures
6 under Section 37.0832;

7 (Q) the right of a school under Section 37.0052
8 to place a student who has engaged in certain bullying behavior in a
9 disciplinary alternative education program or to expel the student;
10 ~~and~~

11 (R) the right under Section 37.0151 to report to
12 local law enforcement certain conduct constituting assault or
13 harassment;

14 (S) ~~(P)~~ a parent's right to information
15 regarding the provision of assistance for learning difficulties to
16 the parent's child as provided by Sections 26.004(b)(11) and
17 26.0081(c) and (d); and

18 (T) the posting of founding documents under
19 Section 11.173.

20 SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
21 amended by adding Section 28.0111 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 28.0111. FOUNDING PRINCIPLES ELECTIVE. (a) Each
23 school district and open-enrollment charter school that offers a
24 high school program shall provide an elective course on the
25 founding principles of the United States that meets the
26 requirements for a one-half elective credit under Section 28.025.

27 (b) The course must focus on the principles underlying the

1 United States form of government, the Declaration of Independence,
2 the United States Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and the
3 writings of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

4 SECTION 4. Section 28.0111, Education Code, as added by
5 this Act, applies beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

6 SECTION 5. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
7 over another Act of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019,
8 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted
9 codes.

10 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.