

By: Goodwin

H.B. No. 437

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to personal financial literacy courses for high school  
3 students in public schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 28.0021(b), Education Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 (b) Each school district and each open-enrollment charter  
8 school that offers a high school program shall provide a [~~an~~  
9 ~~elective~~] course in personal financial literacy that meets the  
10 requirements for [~~a one-half elective~~] credit under Section 28.025,  
11 using materials approved by the State Board of Education. The  
12 instruction in personal financial literacy must include  
13 instruction on completing the application for federal student aid  
14 provided by the United States Department of Education. In  
15 fulfilling the requirement to provide financial literacy  
16 instruction under this section, a school district or  
17 open-enrollment charter school may use an existing state, federal,  
18 private, or nonprofit program that provides students without charge  
19 the instruction described under this section.

20 SECTION 2. Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 (b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require  
23 that the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school  
24 program under Subsection (a) include a requirement that students

1 successfully complete:

2 (1) four credits in English language arts under  
3 Section 28.002(a)(1)(A), including one credit in English I, one  
4 credit in English II, one credit in English III, and one credit in  
5 an advanced English course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

6 (2) three credits in mathematics under Section  
7 28.002(a)(1)(B), including one credit in Algebra I, one credit in  
8 geometry, and one credit in any advanced mathematics course  
9 authorized under Subsection (b-2);

10 (3) three credits in science under Section  
11 28.002(a)(1)(C), including one credit in biology, one credit in any  
12 advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2), and one  
13 credit in integrated physics and chemistry or in an additional  
14 advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

15 (4) three credits in social studies under Section  
16 28.002(a)(1)(D), including one credit in United States history, at  
17 least one-half credit in government and at least one-half credit in  
18 economics, and one credit in world geography or world history;

19 (5) except as provided under Subsections (b-12),  
20 (b-13), and (b-14), two credits in the same language in a language  
21 other than English under Section 28.002(a)(2)(A);

22 (6) four and one-half [~~five~~] elective credits;

23 (7) one credit in fine arts under Section  
24 28.002(a)(2)(D); [~~and~~]

25 (8) except as provided by Subsection (b-11), one  
26 credit in physical education under Section 28.002(a)(2)(C); and

27 (9) at least one-half credit in personal financial

1 literacy under Section 28.0021.

2           SECTION 3. Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, as amended  
3 by this Act, applies only to students entering the ninth grade  
4 during the 2021-2022 school year or a later school year. For  
5 students entering a grade above ninth grade during the 2021-2022  
6 school year, Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, as that section  
7 existed before amendment by this Act, applies, and that section is  
8 continued in effect for that purpose.

9           SECTION 4. 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, 2021.