

By: González of El Paso

H.B. No. 1602

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to information regarding career and employment skills
3 development required to be included with a written statement of an
4 individualized education program developed for certain public
5 school students.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
8 amended by adding Section 29.0113 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 29.0113. CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT.

10 (a) For students eligible to begin transition planning under
11 sections 29.011 and 29.0111, the strategies described in this
12 subsection shall be considered, and, when needed, addressed in the
13 individualized education program. The district shall prepare a
14 supplement to be included with the written statement of the
15 individualized education program developed for the child under
16 Section 29.005(b). The supplement must include information
17 indicating:

18 (1) the need for and use of age-appropriate transition
19 assessments that collect data on the student's needs, preferences
20 and interests regarding employment, self-determination and
21 self-advocacy, independent living and study skills;

22 (2) the development of appropriate employment goals
23 and objectives;

24 (3) the need for and development of independent living

1 goals and objectives;

2 (4) the need for and use of supplementary aids,
3 services, curricula, and other opportunities to assist the student
4 in developing decision-making skills, and the supports and services
5 needed to foster the student's independence and
6 self-determination, including a supported decision-making
7 agreement under Chapter 1357, Estates Code;

8 (5) the need for and use of age-appropriate
9 instructional environments, including community settings to
10 prepare the student for postsecondary education or training, or
11 competitive integrated employment;

12 (6) the development of appropriate measurable
13 postsecondary goals based on transition assessments related to
14 training, education, employment, and, where appropriate,
15 independent living skills;

16 (7) the need to facilitate a referral of a student or
17 the student's parents to a governmental agency for services or
18 public benefits, including a referral to a governmental agency for
19 public benefits available to the student, such as a waiver program
20 established under Section 1915(c), Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
21 Section 1396n(c)), including supported employment and employment
22 assistance services;

23 (8) the transition services, including courses of
24 study, needed to assist the student in reaching the postsecondary
25 goals developed under this subsection;

26 (9) the job exploration activities available to and
27 utilized by the student;

1 (10) the need for a referral to vocational
2 rehabilitation services;

3 (11) the need to invite the student's vocational
4 rehabilitation counselor to the student's admission, review, and
5 dismissal committee meeting and opportunities for collaboration
6 between the district and vocational rehabilitation; and

7 (12) training needed for teachers, counselors,
8 parents and other school staff needed to implement the students
9 transition and employment goals.

10 (b) A student's admission, review, and dismissal committee
11 shall annually review the issues described by Subsection (a) and,
12 if necessary, update the portions of the student's individualized
13 education program that address those issues.

14 (c) The written statement of the individualized education
15 program must document the decisions of the admission, review, and
16 dismissal committee with respect to issues discussed at each
17 admission, review, and dismissal committee meeting.

18 (d) Section 29.005(f) and Section 29.0051 do not apply to a
19 supplement prepared for inclusion with a written statement of an
20 individualized education program, as required by this section.

21 (e) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to
22 implement this section.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.