

AN ACT

relating to instruction in educator training programs regarding digital learning, virtual learning, and virtual instruction.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.001, Education Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (4) and (5) to read as follows:

(4) "Virtual instruction" means instructional activities delivered to students primarily over the Internet.

(5) "Virtual learning" means digital learning facilitated by virtual instruction.

SECTION 2. Section 21.044(c-2), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c-2) Any minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) that require a person to possess a bachelor's degree must also require that the person receive, as part of the training required to obtain that certificate, instruction in digital learning, virtual learning, and virtual instruction, including a digital literacy evaluation followed by a prescribed digital learning curriculum. The instruction required must:

(1) be aligned with the International Society for Technology in Education's standards for teachers;

(2) provide effective, evidence-based strategies to determine a person's degree of digital literacy; ~~and~~

- 1 (3) cover best practices in:
2 (A) assessing students receiving virtual
3 instruction, based on academic progress; and
4 (B) developing a virtual learning curriculum;
5 and
6 (4) include resources to address any deficiencies
7 identified by the digital literacy evaluation.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 226 passed the Senate on April 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 226 passed the House on May 26, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 130, Nays 17, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor