

By: Bucy

H.B. No. 51

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to requiring fine arts as part of the foundation  
3 curriculum for public schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 28.002(a) and (n), Education Code, are  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through  
8 grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:

9 (1) a foundation curriculum that includes:

10 (A) English language arts;

11 (B) mathematics;

12 (C) science; ~~and~~

13 (D) social studies, consisting of Texas, United  
14 States, and world history, government, economics, with emphasis on  
15 the free enterprise system and its benefits, and geography; and

16 (E) fine arts; and

17 (2) an enrichment curriculum that includes:

18 (A) to the extent possible, languages other than  
19 English;

20 (B) health, with emphasis on:

21 (i) physical health, including the  
22 importance of proper nutrition and exercise;

23 (ii) mental health, including instruction  
24 about mental health conditions, substance abuse, skills to manage

1 emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and  
2 responsible decision-making; and

3 (iii) suicide prevention, including  
4 recognizing suicide-related risk factors and warning signs;

5 (C) physical education;

6 (D) [~~fine arts,~~

7 [~~E~~] career and technology education;

8 (E) [~~F~~] technology applications;

9 (F) [~~G~~] religious literature, including the  
10 Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact  
11 on history and literature; and

12 (G) [~~H~~] personal financial literacy.

13 (n) The State Board of Education may by rule develop and  
14 implement a plan designed to incorporate foundation curriculum  
15 requirements into the career and technology education curriculum  
16 under Subsection (a)(2)(D) [~~(a)(2)(E)~~].

17 SECTION 2. Section [28.003\(b\)](#), Education Code, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (b) In this section, "educational program" means a course or  
20 series of courses in the required curriculum under Section [28.002](#),  
21 other than a fine arts course under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)\(E\)](#)  
22 [~~[28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(D\)](#)~~] or a career and technology course under Section  
23 [28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(D\)](#) [~~[28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(E\)](#)~~].

24 SECTION 3. Section [28.025\(b-1\)](#), Education Code, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require  
27 that the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school

1 program under Subsection (a) include a requirement that students  
2 successfully complete:

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

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

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

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

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

24 (6) five elective credits;

25 (7) one credit in fine arts under Section  
26 28.002(a)(1)(E) [~~28.002(a)(2)(D)~~]; and

27 (8) except as provided by Subsection (b-11), one

1 credit in physical education under Section 28.002(a)(2)(C).

2 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024  
3 school year.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
9 legislative session.