

By: Vasut

H.B. No. 1982

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to teacher literacy achievement academies and the requirement for certain public school teachers and principals to attend a teacher literacy achievement academy.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.4552, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d-1) The commissioner is required to implement a provision of this section only if the legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that purpose, the commissioner may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this section using other appropriations available for that purpose.

SECTION 2. Section 28.006(g-1), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(g-1) A school district shall provide additional reading instruction and intervention to each student in seventh grade assessed under Subsection (c-1), as appropriate to improve the student's reading skills in the relevant areas identified through the assessment instrument. Training and support for activities required by this subsection shall be provided by regional education service centers and any teacher literacy achievement academies made available ~~[established]~~ under Section 21.4552, and may be provided by other public and private providers.

SECTION 3. Section 28.0062(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall:

(1) provide for the use of a phonics curriculum that uses systematic direct instruction in kindergarten through third grade to ensure all students obtain necessary early literacy skills;

(2) if the commissioner has made available teacher literacy achievement academies under Section 21.4552, ensure that:

(A) ~~[not later than the 2022-2023 school year,~~ each classroom teacher in kindergarten or first, second, or third grade and each principal at a campus with kindergarten or first, second, or third grade has attended a teacher literacy achievement academy ~~[developed under Section 21.4552]~~; and

(B) each classroom teacher and each principal initially employed in a grade level or at a campus described by Paragraph (A) ~~[for the 2022-2023 school year or a subsequent school year]~~ has attended a teacher literacy achievement academy ~~[developed under Section 21.4552]~~ by the end of the teacher's or principal's first year of placement in that grade level or campus; and

(3) certify to the agency that the district or school:

(A) prioritizes placement of highly effective teachers in kindergarten through second grade; and

(B) has integrated reading instruments used to diagnose reading development and comprehension to support each

1 student in prekindergarten through third grade.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.