

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 4410

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a Texas Commission on High School Outcomes.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "commission" means the Texas Commission on High School Outcomes.

SECTION 2. TEXAS COMMISSION ON HIGH SCHOOL OUTCOMES. (a) The commission is established to develop and make recommendations for improvements to the current public high school structure or practices to improve the college, career, or military readiness of students.

(b) The commission is composed of 16 members, consisting of:

- (1) seven members appointed by the governor;
- (2) four members appointed by the lieutenant governor;
- (3) four members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and
- (4) a member of the State Board of Education, as designated by the chair of that board.

(c) The members appointed by the governor must have an interest in public education and include at least:

- (1) one person who is a current or retired classroom teacher with at least 10 years of teaching experience;
- (2) one person who is a member of the business or civic community in North Texas;

1           (3) one person who is a member of the business or civic  
2 community in West Texas; and

3           (4) one person who is a member of the business or civic  
4 community in South Texas.

5           (d) The appointments made by the lieutenant governor and the  
6 speaker of the house of representatives must each consist of:

7           (1) three members of the applicable legislative  
8 chamber; and

9           (2) an administrator for a public school or a member of  
10 the board of trustees of a school district.

11          (e) In making appointments under Subsections (b)(1), (2),  
12 and (3) of this section, the governor, lieutenant governor, and  
13 speaker of the house of representatives shall coordinate to ensure  
14 that the membership of the commission reflects, to the extent  
15 possible, the ethnic and geographic diversity of this state.

16          (f) The governor shall designate the presiding officer of  
17 the commission.

18          SECTION 3. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of the  
19 commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the  
20 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and  
21 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

22          SECTION 4. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING. (a) The  
23 Texas Education Agency shall provide administrative support for the  
24 commission.

25          (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses  
26 of the commission shall be provided by legislative appropriation  
27 made to the Texas Education Agency for that purpose.

1           SECTION 5. STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The commission  
2 shall study and develop recommendations under this Act to address  
3 issues related to the college, career, and military readiness of  
4 public high school students in this state, including:

5                   (1) the purpose and role of public high schools in  
6 preparing students for the modern economy;

7                   (2) the postsecondary preferences of students and  
8 young adults and the ways public high schools can be adapted to  
9 support those preferences;

10                  (3) changes that could be made to current high school  
11 graduation requirements to improve student postsecondary outcomes  
12 and better reflect the needs of the modern economy;

13                  (4) changes that could be made to the current public  
14 school finance system to:

15                           (A) equip and encourage public schools to adopt  
16 innovative educational models and career and technology programs;  
17 and

18                           (B) support the improvement of postsecondary  
19 outcomes;

20                  (5) barriers to implementing innovative programs of  
21 study or courses, including career-focused or technical programs or  
22 courses, that support students in achieving postsecondary success;  
23 and

24                  (6) the state's current approach to industry  
25 certifications and whether students are being offered credentials  
26 of value that will lead to high-wage, high-demand jobs.

27           (b) The commission may establish one or more working groups

1 composed of not more than six members of the commission to study,  
2 discuss, and address specific policy issues and recommendations to  
3 refer to the commission for consideration.

4       SECTION 6. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2024, the  
5 commission shall prepare and deliver a report to the governor and  
6 the legislature that recommends statutory changes to improve  
7 outcomes for public high school students and ensure every student  
8 is prepared for college, a career, or military service immediately  
9 upon graduation.

10       SECTION 7. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a) The  
11 commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill its duties  
12 under this Act.

13       (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,  
14 Government Code.

15       SECTION 8. COMMISSION ABOLISHED. The commission is  
16 abolished January 1, 2025.

17       SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
18 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
19 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
20 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
21 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.