

1-1 By: Hagenbuch S.B. No. 2847  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 14, 2025; April 7, 2025, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education K-16;  
 1-4 May 7, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,  
 1-5 Nays 2; May 7, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14		X		
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18		X		

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to innovations in core curriculum to accelerate the award  
 1-22 of bachelor's degrees.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 61.822, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-25 read as follows:

1-26 (b) Each institution of higher education shall adopt a core  
 1-27 curriculum of no less than 42 semester credit hours, including  
 1-28 specific courses comprising the curriculum. The core curriculum  
 1-29 shall be consistent with the common course numbering system  
 1-30 approved by the board and with the statement, recommendations, and  
 1-31 rules issued by the board. An institution may have a core  
 1-32 curriculum of other than 42 semester credit hours only if approved  
 1-33 by the board. The board by rule may approve a core curriculum of  
 1-34 fewer than 42 semester credit hours for an associate degree program  
 1-35 if the board determines that the approval would facilitate the  
 1-36 award of a degree or transfer of credit consistent with this  
 1-37 subchapter.

1-38 (b-1) The board by rule may approve a core curriculum of  
 1-39 fewer than 42 semester credit hours for a bachelor's degree program  
 1-40 at an institution of higher education if the board determines that  
 1-41 the approval would accelerate student completion of workforce  
 1-42 aligned credentials, as defined by board rule.

1-43 (c) If a student successfully completes the core curriculum  
 1-44 at an institution of higher education, that block of courses may be  
 1-45 transferred to any other institution of higher education and must  
 1-46 be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A  
 1-47 student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses  
 1-48 transferred and may not be required to take additional core  
 1-49 curriculum courses at the receiving institution unless the board  
 1-50 has approved a larger core curriculum at the institution.

1-51 (d) A student who transfers from one institution of higher  
 1-52 education to another without completing the core curriculum of the  
 1-53 sending institution shall receive academic credit from the  
 1-54 receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has  
 1-55 successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending  
 1-56 institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the  
 1-57 student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in  
 1-58 the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

1-59 (e) The governing board of a general academic teaching  
 1-60 institution that offers a joint baccalaureate degree program under  
 1-61 a contract with a foreign college or university may, in

2-1 consultation with the foreign college or university, identify and  
2-2 approve courses offered by the foreign college or university that  
2-3 are equivalent to, and may substitute for, courses in the core  
2-4 curriculum of a student enrolled in the joint degree program who is  
2-5 considered to be primarily a student of the general academic  
2-6 teaching institution.  
2-7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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