

By: Solomons

H.B. No. 1153

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to expanding the public high school curriculum to promote personal financial literacy.

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

SECTION 1. Section 28.0021, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0021. PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY. (a) The Texas essential knowledge and skills and Section 28.025 shall require instruction in personal financial literacy offered in the ninth or tenth grade in one or more courses required for high school graduation.

(b) School districts and open-enrollment charter schools shall incorporate instruction in personal financial literacy into any course meeting a requirement for a mathematics or [an] economics credit under Section 28.025, using materials approved by the board. The materials must include instruction on:

(1) the types of bank accounts available to consumers and the benefits of maintaining a bank account;

(2) balancing a check book;

(3) determining credit scores and the manner in which credit scores are used;

(4) issues associated with the use of debit and credit cards, including avoiding and eliminating credit card debt;

(5) understanding the rights and responsibilities of

1 renting or buying a home;

2 (6) managing money to make the transition from renting
3 a home to home ownership;

4 (7) starting a small business;

5 (8) being a prudent investor in the stock market and
6 using other investment options;

7 (9) beginning a savings program;

8 (10) bankruptcy; and

9 (11) the types of loans available to consumers,
10 including mortgage loans and motor vehicle loans, and becoming a
11 low-risk borrower.

12 (c) ~~[School districts and open-enrollment charter schools~~
13 ~~shall comply with Subsection (b) beginning with the 2006-2007~~
14 ~~school year.]~~ The board shall adopt essential knowledge and skills
15 for a course including the requirements of Subsection (b) ~~[(a)]~~ not
16 later than the 2010-2011 ~~[2008-2009]~~ school year. This subsection
17 expires September 1, 2011 ~~[and Subsection (b) expire September 1,~~
18 ~~2009].~~

19 (d) School districts and open-enrollment charter schools
20 shall offer an intensive one-week course that incorporates the
21 instruction in personal financial literacy required by this
22 section. The course must be offered to students who drop out of
23 school and who have not otherwise completed a course under this
24 section.

25 SECTION 2. Section 39.023(c), Education Code, is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (c) The agency shall also adopt end-of-course assessment

1 instruments for secondary-level courses in Algebra I, Algebra II,
2 geometry, a course that includes instruction in personal financial
3 literacy, biology, chemistry, physics, English I, English II,
4 English III, world geography, world history, and United States
5 history. The Algebra I, Algebra II, and geometry end-of-course
6 assessment instruments and any end-of-course assessment instrument
7 for a course that includes instruction in personal financial
8 literacy must be administered with the aid of technology. A school
9 district shall comply with State Board of Education rules regarding
10 administration of the assessment instruments listed in this
11 subsection and shall adopt a policy that requires a student's
12 performance on an end-of-course assessment instrument for a course
13 listed in this subsection in which the student is enrolled to
14 account for 15 percent of the student's final grade for the course.
15 If a student retakes an end-of-course assessment instrument for a
16 course listed in this subsection, as provided by Section 39.025, a
17 school district is not required to use the student's performance on
18 the subsequent administration or administrations of the assessment
19 instrument to determine the student's final grade for the course.
20 If a student is in a special education program under Subchapter A,
21 Chapter 29, the student's admission, review, and dismissal
22 committee shall determine whether any allowable modification is
23 necessary in administering to the student an assessment instrument
24 required under this subsection or whether the student should be
25 exempted under Section 39.027(a)(2). The State Board of Education
26 shall administer the assessment instruments. The State Board of
27 Education shall adopt a schedule for the administration of

1 end-of-course assessment instruments that complies with the
2 requirements of Subsection (c-3).

3 SECTION 3. Section 39.025(f), Education Code, is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (f) The commissioner shall by rule adopt a transition plan
6 to implement the amendments made by S.B. No. 1031, Acts of the 80th
7 Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, to this section and Sections
8 39.023(a) and (c) and 39.051(b)(5) and by .B. No. __, Acts of the
9 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009, to Section
10 39.023(c). The rules must provide for the end-of-course
11 assessment instruments adopted under Section 39.023(c) to be
12 administered beginning with students entering the ninth grade
13 during the 2011-2012 school year. During the period under which
14 the transition to end-of-course assessment instruments is made:

15 (1) for students entering a grade above the ninth
16 grade during the 2011-2012 school year, the commissioner shall
17 retain, administer, and use for campus and district ratings under
18 Subchapter D the assessment instruments required by Section
19 39.023(a) or (c), as that section existed before amendment by S.B.
20 No. 1031, Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007; and

21 (2) the agency may defer releasing assessment
22 instrument questions and answer keys as required by Section
23 39.023(e) to the extent necessary to develop additional assessment
24 instruments.

25 SECTION 4. Section 39.051(d), Education Code, is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (d) Annually, the commissioner shall define exemplary,

1 recognized, and unacceptable performance for each academic
 2 excellence indicator included under Subsections (b)(1) through (7)
 3 and shall project the standards for each of those levels of
 4 performance for succeeding years. For the indicator under
 5 Subsection (b)(8), the commissioner shall define exemplary,
 6 recognized, and unacceptable performance based on student
 7 performance for the period covering both the current and preceding
 8 academic years. In defining exemplary, recognized, and
 9 unacceptable performance for the indicators under Subsections
 10 (b)(2) and (4), the commissioner may not consider as a dropout or as
 11 a student who has failed to attend school:

12 (1) a student whose failure to attend school results
 13 from:

14 (A) [~~(1)~~] the student's expulsion under Section
 15 37.007; and

16 (B) [~~(2)~~] as applicable:

17 (i) [~~(A)~~] adjudication as having engaged in
 18 delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, as
 19 defined by Section 51.03, Family Code; or

20 (ii) [~~(B)~~] conviction of and sentencing for
 21 an offense under the Penal Code; or

22 (2) a student who completes a course offered under
 23 Section 28.0021(d).

24 SECTION 5. The change in law made by Section 28.0021(a),
 25 Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies beginning with
 26 students entering the ninth grade during the 2009-2010 school year.
 27 Students who entered the ninth grade before the 2009-2010 school

1 year are governed by the law in effect at the time the students
2 entered the ninth grade, and the former law is continued in effect
3 for that purpose.

4 SECTION 6. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
5 school year.

6 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.