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AN ACT

relating to the computation of public school dropout and completion rates.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (b), Section 39.051, Education Code, as amended by Chapters 8, 725, 834, and 1420, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(b) Performance on the indicators adopted under this section shall be compared to state-established standards. The degree of change from one school year to the next in performance on each indicator adopted under this section shall also be considered. The indicators must be based on information that is disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status and must include:

(1) the results of assessment instruments required under Sections 39.023(a), (c), and (l), aggregated by grade level and subject area;

(2) dropout rates, including dropout rates and district completion rates for grade levels 9 through 12, computed in accordance with standards and definitions adopted by the National Center for Education Statistics of the United States Department of Education;

(3) high school graduation rates, computed in

accordance with standards and definitions adopted in compliance with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Pub. L. No. 107-110);

(4) student attendance rates;

(5) [~~4~~] the percentage of graduating students who attain scores on the secondary exit-level assessment instruments required under Subchapter B that are equivalent to a passing score on the test instrument required under Section 51.306;

(6) [~~5~~] the percentage of graduating students who meet the course requirements established for the recommended high school program by State Board of Education rule;

(7) [~~6~~] the results of the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), the American College Test (ACT), articulated postsecondary degree programs described by Section 61.852, and certified workforce training programs described by Chapter 311, Labor Code;

(8) [~~7~~] the percentage of students, aggregated by grade level, provided accelerated instruction under Section 28.0211(c), the results of assessments administered under that section, the percentage of students promoted through the grade placement committee process under Section 28.0211, the subject of the assessment instrument on which each student failed to perform satisfactorily, and the performance of those students in the school year following that promotion on the assessment instruments required under Section 39.023;

(9) [~~8~~] for students who have failed to perform satisfactorily on an assessment instrument required under Section

1 39.023(a) or (c), the numerical progress of those students on
2 subsequent assessment instruments required under those sections,
3 aggregated by grade level and subject area;

4 (10) [~~(9)~~ the percentage of students taking
5 ~~end-of-course assessment instruments adopted under Section~~
6 ~~39.023(d)~~;

7 [~~(9)~~] the percentage of students exempted, by
8 exemption category, from the assessment program generally
9 applicable under this chapter [~~subchapter~~]; and

10 (11) the percentage of students of limited English
11 proficiency exempted from the administration of an assessment
12 instrument under Sections 39.027(a)(3) and (4).

13 SECTION 2. Subsection (b), Section 39.051, Education Code,
14 as amended by this Act, applies beginning with the 2005-2006 school
15 year.

16 SECTION 3. The Texas Education Agency shall modify its data
17 collection system to permit the application of the National Center
18 for Education Statistics definition of a dropout to campuses not
19 later than the 2005-2006 school year. In the interim, the Texas
20 Education Agency shall assist districts in computing the required
21 rates to the extent necessary to apply for dropout reduction grants
22 funded under Section 1803 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
23 (20 U.S.C. Section 6553).

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

David Dewhurst

President of the Senate

Tom Caslick

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 186 passed the Senate on
March 19, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Patsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 186 passed the House on
May 28, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

20 JUN '03

Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
9:30 pm O'CLOCK

JUN 20 2003
Ann Shea
Secretary of State