

CHAPTER 1220

S.B. No. 1557

AN ACT

1
2 relating to business and nonprofit organization participation in
3 supporting early college high schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 29.908, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding Subsections (e), (f),
7 and (g) to read as follows:

8 (c) A student participating in the program is entitled to
9 the benefits of the Foundation School Program in proportion to the
10 amount of time spent by the student on high school courses, in
11 accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, while completing
12 the course of study established by the applicable articulation
13 agreement under Subsection (b)(3).

14 (d) The commissioner may accept gifts, grants, and
15 donations from any source, including private and nonprofit
16 organizations. Private and nonprofit organizations that
17 contribute to the fund shall receive an award under Section 7.113[
18 ~~to pay any costs of the program not covered by the student's~~
19 ~~Foundation School Program benefits]~~.

20 (e) The commissioner shall collaborate with the Texas
21 Workforce Commission and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
22 Board to develop and implement a strategic plan to enhance private
23 industry participation under this section. The plan must
24 include:

1 (1) strategies to increase private industry
2 participation; and

3 (2) incentives for businesses and nonprofit
4 organizations that choose to make donations and work with high
5 schools that participate in a program under this section to
6 maximize job placement opportunities for program graduates.

7 (f) Not later than December 1, 2014, the commissioner shall
8 provide a report that summarizes the strategic plan developed under
9 Subsection (e) to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house
10 of representatives, the governor, the Texas Workforce Commission,
11 and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Texas
12 Education Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas
13 Higher Education Coordinating Board shall each make the report
14 available on the respective agency's Internet website.

15 (g) [~~d~~] The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to
16 administer the program. The rules may provide for giving
17 preference in receiving program benefits to a student who is in the
18 first generation of the student's family to attend college and may
19 establish other distinctions or criteria based on student need.
20 The commissioner shall consult the Texas Higher Education
21 Coordinating Board in administering the program. The Texas Higher
22 Education Coordinating Board may adopt rules as necessary to
23 exercise its powers and duties under this section. The P-16 Council
24 may make recommendations, including recommendations for rules,
25 concerning administration of the program.

26 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

David Newkurt
President of the Senate

Joe Straus
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1557 passed the Senate on May 2, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Letsy Law
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1557 passed the House on May 22, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 148, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

14 JUNE '13
Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
10 pm O'CLOCK
JUN 14 2013

[Signature]
Secretary of State