

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Council to study and make recommendations concerning expanded learning opportunities for public school students.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES COUNCIL

Sec. 33.251. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "council" means the Expanded Learning Opportunities Council.

Sec. 33.252. EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) Expanded learning opportunities may be provided during:

(1) an extended school day;

(2) an extended school year; or

(3) structured learning programs outside of the regular school day, including before- and after-school programs and summer programs.

(b) Expanded learning opportunities may be provided by offering:

(1) rigorous coursework;

(2) mentoring;

(3) tutoring;

(4) physical activity;

(5) academic support; or

1 (6) educational enrichment in one or more subjects,
2 including fine arts, civic engagement, science, technology,
3 engineering, and mathematics.

4 Sec. 33.253. ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSES. (a) The Expanded
5 Learning Opportunities Council is established to:

6 (1) study issues concerning expanded learning
7 opportunities for this state's public school students, including:

8 (A) issues related to creating safe places for
9 children outside of the regular school day, improving the academic
10 success of students who participate in expanded learning
11 opportunities programs, and assisting working families; and

12 (B) other issues prescribed under Section
13 33.258; and

14 (2) make recommendations as provided by Section 33.259
15 to address issues studied under this subchapter.

16 (b) In conducting studies under this subchapter, the
17 council shall focus on innovative, hands-on learning approaches
18 that complement rather than replicate the regular school
19 curriculum.

20 Sec. 33.254. SUNSET PROVISION. The council is subject to
21 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued
22 in existence as provided by that chapter, the council is abolished
23 and this subchapter expires September 1, 2017.

24 Sec. 33.255. COMPOSITION. The council is composed of 13
25 members appointed by the commissioner as follows:

26 (1) two members of the public, including one
27 representing the business community and one parent of a public

1 school student participating in an expanded learning opportunities
2 program in this state;

3 (2) two members who are involved in research-based
4 expanded learning opportunities efforts in this state so that at
5 least one is involved in efforts to extend the school day or school
6 year and at least one is involved in efforts to provide out of
7 school time before or after the regular school day or during the
8 period in which school is recessed for the summer;

9 (3) one member representing law enforcement;

10 (4) one member representing the agency;

11 (5) one member who is an educator, other than a
12 superintendent, at the elementary school level;

13 (6) one member who is an educator, other than a
14 superintendent, at the middle or junior high school level;

15 (7) one member who is an educator, other than a
16 superintendent, at the high school level;

17 (8) one member who is a public school superintendent;

18 (9) one member representing a foundation that invests
19 in expanded learning opportunities;

20 (10) one member representing a nonprofit organization
21 that provides programs concerning good nutrition and prevention of
22 or intervention to address childhood obesity; and

23 (11) one member who is a provider representing summer
24 camps.

25 Sec. 33.256. MEETINGS. (a) The council shall meet in
26 person at least three times each year and may hold additional
27 meetings by conference call if necessary.

1 (b) Section 551.125, Government Code, applies to a meeting
2 held by conference call under this section, except that Section
3 551.125(b), Government Code, does not apply.

4 Sec. 33.257. COMPENSATION. A member of the council may not
5 receive compensation for service on the council.

6 Sec. 33.258. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The council shall:

7 (1) study issues related to expanded learning
8 opportunities for public school students;

9 (2) study current research and best practices related
10 to meaningful expanded learning opportunities;

11 (3) analyze the availability of and unmet needs for
12 state and local programs for expanded learning opportunities for
13 public school students;

14 (4) analyze opportunities to create incentives for
15 businesses to support expanded learning opportunities programs for
16 public school students;

17 (5) analyze opportunities to maximize charitable
18 support for public and private partnerships for expanded learning
19 opportunities programs for public school students;

20 (6) analyze opportunities to promote science,
21 technology, engineering, and mathematics in expanded learning
22 opportunities programs for public school students;

23 (7) study the future workforce needs of this state's
24 businesses and other employers; and

25 (8) perform other duties consistent with this
26 subchapter.

27 (b) In carrying out its powers and duties under this

1 section, the council may request reports and other information
2 relating to expanded learning opportunities and students in
3 expanded learning opportunities programs from the Texas Education
4 Agency and any other state agency.

5 Sec. 33.259. STATEWIDE EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
6 PLAN; REPORT. (a) The council shall develop a comprehensive
7 statewide action plan for the improvement of expanded learning
8 opportunities for public school students in this state, including a
9 timeline for implementation of the plan.

10 (b) The council shall submit to both houses of the
11 legislature, the governor, and the agency on or before November 1 of
12 each even-numbered year a written report concerning:

13 (1) the status of the development or implementation of
14 the council's statewide action plan, as applicable;

15 (2) any action taken to further development or
16 implementation of the plan;

17 (3) any area that needs improvement in implementing
18 the plan;

19 (4) any recommended change to the plan; and

20 (5) programs and services that address expanded
21 learning opportunities outside of the regular school day.

22 Sec. 33.260. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. The agency may
23 accept on behalf of the council a gift, grant, or donation from any
24 source to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

25 SECTION 2. (a) The Expanded Learning Opportunities
26 Council shall submit the initial report required under Subchapter
27 G, Chapter 33, Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than

1 November 1, 2014.

2 (b) Not later than December 31, 2013, the commissioner of
3 education shall appoint the members of the Expanded Learning
4 Opportunities Council under Subchapter G, Chapter 33, Education
5 Code, as added by this Act.

6 SECTION 3. 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, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 503 passed the Senate on April 18, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 22, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 503 passed the House, with amendment, on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 125, Nays 9, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor