The State Board of Education (SBOE) proposes an amendment to §74.6, concerning college and career readiness and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) alignment. The proposed amendment would update the alignment charts for the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) and the TEKS to add a new alignment chart for English language arts and to reflect changes resulting from recent updates to the English language arts and mathematics CCRS.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: In 2006, the 79th Texas Legislature required the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to establish vertical teams composed of public school educators and faculty from institutions of higher education to develop college- and career-ready standards in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The work of the vertical teams was organized in three phases. The first phase included a series of team meetings to create the CCRS for the four subject areas. Phase two required the vertical teams to make recommendations regarding alignment of the TEKS with the CCRS. Phase three required the vertical teams to develop or establish instructional strategies, professional development materials, and online support materials for students who need additional assistance in preparing to successfully perform college-level work. Teams also engaged in a series of gap analyses to ensure alignment between the adopted TEKS and the CCRS.

The THECB adopted the CCRS in January 2008. The commissioner of education approved the CCRS, and the SBOE incorporated them into the TEKS as follows: English language arts and reading TEKS in 2008; mathematics and science TEKS in 2009; and social studies TEKS in 2010.

The 84th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, passed House Bill 1613, amending Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.008, to require the SBOE to adopt a chart by rule that clearly indicates the alignment of the college readiness standards and expectations with the TEKS. In January 2016, the SBOE approved 19 TAC §74.6, which adopted in rule charts demonstrating the alignment of the TEKS with the mathematics, science, social studies, and cross-disciplinary CCRS. The SBOE did not adopt charts for English language arts and reading because the TEKS for that subject area were being updated at the time the rule was adopted.

The SBOE gave final approval for the revised English language arts and reading TEKS in May 2017. The revised TEKS will be implemented in the 2019-2020 school year for Kindergarten-Grade 8. The high school TEKS will be implemented in the 2020-2021 school year.

In 2018, the THECB updated the CCRS for language arts and mathematics. As a result, the mathematics alignment chart in §74.6 would also be updated.

The SBOE approved the proposed amendment for first reading and filing authorization at its April 5, 2019 meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT: Monica Martinez, associate commissioner for standards and support services, has determined that for the first five-year period the proposal is in effect there are no additional costs to state or local government required to comply with the proposal.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT: The proposal has no effect on local economy; therefore, no local employment impact statement is required under Texas Government Code, §2001.022.

SMALL BUSINESS, MICROBUSINESS, AND RURAL COMMUNITY IMPACT: The proposal has no direct adverse economic impact for small businesses, microbusinesses, or rural communities; therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis specified in Texas Government Code, §2006.002, is required.

COST INCREASE TO REGULATED PERSONS: The proposal does not impose a cost on regulated persons, another state agency, a special district, or a local government and, therefore, is not subject to Texas Government Code, §2001.0045.

TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT: The proposal does not impose a burden on private real property and, therefore, does not constitute a taking under Texas Government Code, §2007.043.
GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT: TEA staff prepared a Government Growth Impact Statement assessment for this proposed rulemaking. The proposed rulemaking would not create or eliminate a government program; would not require the creation of new employee positions or elimination of existing employee positions; would not require an increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to the agency; would not require an increase or decrease in fees paid to the agency; would not create a new regulation; would not expand, limit, or repeal an existing regulation; would not increase or decrease the number of individuals subject to its applicability; and would not positively or adversely affect the state's economy.

PUBLIC BENEFIT AND COST TO PERSONS: Ms. Martinez has determined that for each year of the first five years the proposal is in effect, the public benefit anticipated as a result of enforcing the proposal would be providing the public with a clear understanding of the integration of CCRS in the TEKS. There is no anticipated economic cost to persons who are required to comply with the proposal.

DATA AND REPORTING IMPACT: The proposal would have no new data and reporting impact.

PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: TEA has determined that the proposal would not require a written report or other paperwork to be completed by a principal or classroom teacher.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comment period on the proposal begins May 3, 2019, and ends June 7, 2019. A form for submitting public comments is available on the TEA website at https://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Laws_and_Rules/SBOE_Rules_(TAC)/Proposed_State_Board_of_Education_Rules/. Comments on the proposal may also be submitted to Cristina De La Fuente-Valadez, Rulemaking, Texas Education Agency, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. The SBOE will take registered oral and written comments on the proposal at the appropriate committee meeting in June 2019 in accordance with the SBOE board operating policies and procedures. A request for a public hearing on the proposal submitted under the Administrative Procedure Act must be received by the commissioner of education not more than 14 calendar days after notice of the proposal has been published in the Texas Register on May 3, 2019.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The amendment is proposed under Texas Education Code (TEC), §7.102(c)(4), which requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to establish curriculum and graduation requirements; and TEC, §28.008(d), which requires the SBOE to adopt a chart by rule that clearly indicates the alignment of the college readiness standards and expectations with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE. The amendment implements Texas Education Code, §7.102(c)(4) and §28.008(d).

§74.6. College and Career Readiness and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills Alignment.

(a) In accordance with the Texas Education Code, §28.008, the State Board of Education shall incorporate College and Career Readiness Standards approved by the commissioner of education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board into the essential knowledge and skills and indicate the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards with the essential knowledge and skills.

(b) The figure in this subsection identifies the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards for mathematics with the essential knowledge and skills.

Figure: 19 TAC §74.6(b) [Figure: 19 TAC §74.6(b)]

(c) The figure in this subsection identifies the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards for science with the essential knowledge and skills.

Figure: 19 TAC §74.6(c)

(d) The figure in this subsection identifies the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards for social studies with the essential knowledge and skills.
(e) The figure in this subsection identifies the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards for cross-disciplinary studies with the essential knowledge and skills.

Figure: 19 TAC §74.6(e)

(f) The figure in this subsection identifies the alignment of the College and Career Readiness Standards for English language arts with the essential knowledge and skills.

Figure: 19 TAC §74.6(f)