

81st Legislative Session Update

Anita Givens

**Associate Commissioner
Standards and Programs**

Bill: **Relating to:**

- HB 3 *Public school accountability, curriculum, and promotion requirements*
- HB 130 *Full-day prekindergarten programs*
- HB 136 *Prekindergarten classes*
- HB 461 *Dyslexia practitioners and therapists*
- HB 2703 *Student retained at parent request*
- HB 3076 *Parenting and paternity awareness program*
- HB 3643 *Prekindergarten classes*

Bill: **Relating to:**

- HB 1332** Responsibility for public school textbooks and technological equipment and to failure by students to return textbooks or technological equipment
- HB 2893** The technology demonstration sites project and to a computer lending pilot program

Bill: **Relating to:**

HB 3646 *Public school finance*

Includes

SB 197 - personal financial literacy pilot

*SB 199 - personal financial literacy
training*

SB 955 - Virtual School Network

SB 1313 - CTE allotment

HB 4294 *Textbooks, electronic textbooks,
instructional material, and
technological equipment in public schools*

Bill: Relating to:

SB 90	<i>Interstate Compact on Military Children</i>
SB 175	<i>Academic teaching institutions (10%)</i>
SB 482	<i>Holocaust and Genocide Commission</i>
SB 891	<i>Public school physical education curriculum</i>
SB 1219	<i>High school health curriculum</i>
SB 1344	<i>School health curriculum</i>
SB 2033	<i>School district grading policy</i>
SB 2248	<i>Students placed in substitute care</i>

Bill: **Relating to:**

SB 2178 *The establishment by the
commissioner of education of a
computer lending pilot program for
public schools*

SB 2178 Computer Lending Pilot

COMPUTER LENDING PILOT PROGRAM

The commissioner by rule shall establish a computer lending pilot program to provide computers to participating public schools that make computers available for use by students and their parents.

PILOT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

The commissioner shall establish procedures for the administration of the pilot program, including procedures for distributing to participating public schools:

- (1) any surplus or salvage data processing equipment available for distribution under the pilot program; or
- (2) computers donated or purchased for that purpose with funds from any available source, including a foundation, private entity, governmental entity, and institution of higher education.

SB 2178 Computer Lending Pilot

ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS. A public school is eligible to participate in the pilot program if:

- ▶ (1) 50 percent or more of the students enrolled in the school are educationally disadvantaged; and
- ▶ (2) the school operates or agrees to operate a computer lending program that:
 - (A) allows students and parents to borrow a computer;
 - (B) includes an option for students and parents to work toward owning a computer initially borrowed under the school's lending program, subject to any applicable legal restrictions regarding disposition of the computer involved;
 - (C) provides computer training for students and parents; and
 - (D) operates outside regular school hours, including operation until at least 7 p.m. on at least three days each week.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Bill: Relating to:

**HB 2488 Open-source textbooks and
 other instructional materials for public
 schools**

HB 2488 Open-source textbooks

"Open-source textbook" means an electronic textbook that is available for downloading from the Internet at no charge to a student and without requiring the purchase of an unlock code, membership, or other access or use charge, except for a charge to order an optional printed copy of all or part of the textbook.

HB 2488

Open-source textbooks submitted would have to:

- ▶ be written, compiled, or edited primarily by faculty of the institution specializing in the subject area of the textbook;
- ▶ identify each contributing author;
- ▶ be certified for accuracy by the appropriate department in the institution; and
- ▶ have been determined by the institution to qualify for placement on the conforming or nonconforming list.

The institution would have to certify that a textbook for a senior-level course would prepare a student, without remediation, for that institution's freshman-level course in that subject and that a textbook for a junior-level course would prepare a student for the senior-level course in that subject.

HB 2488

School districts and open-enrollment charter schools would have to purchase printed copies of the open-source textbooks for students lacking the technology to access the open-source materials, unless the district provided electronic access at no cost to the student or printed copies of the portion of the book to be used in the course.

The SBOE could contract for the printing of an open-source textbook if the contract allowed the district to purchase printed copies for students as necessary. A student could retain the student's printed copy of the textbook if the school district or charter school did not intend to use it for another student.

HB 4294

- ▶ Requires the commissioner of education to adopt a list of electronic textbooks and instructional materials that convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process, from which school districts and open-enrollment charter schools could select electronic textbooks or instructional materials to purchase.

HB 4294

Electronic textbooks or instructional materials on the list would:

- ▶ **be reviewed and recommended by a panel of experts in the subject area of the textbook or materials;**
- ▶ **be aligned with current research in the subject area of the textbook or materials;**
- ▶ **cover each part of the Texas essential knowledge and skills and indicate the percentage of each essential knowledge and skill covered; and**
- ▶ **include appropriate training for teachers.**

A panel of experts would have to make a recommendation before an approved electronic textbook or instructional material could be removed from the approved list.

HB 4294

- ▶ **If a school district or open-enrollment charter school purchased from the approved list, the state would pay for each textbook or instructional material purchased 100 percent of the maximum amount approved by the State Board of Education for a printed textbook for the subject area and grade level, multiplied by the number of electronic textbooks or instructional materials the district or school needed for that subject and grade level.**
- ▶ **A school district could use textbooks funds allocated to the school district to purchase technological equipment according to rules adopted by the commissioner.**

HB 4294

- ▶ **School districts and open-enrollment charter schools would be required to obtain a classroom set of textbooks for each subject and grade level in the foundation and enrichment curriculum.**
- ▶ **Effective Immediately**
- ▶ **Executive Order**
 - **Cooperation.** The Commissioner of Education and the Texas Education Agency shall continue to work together with the State Board of Education to ensure the content of the State's textbooks meet the essential knowledge and skills established by the State Board of Education and are factually error free.

HB 4284

Information and Opportunities.

In establishing a review panel process of digital content, the Commissioner of Education shall adopt rules necessary to ensure the State Board of Education is an integral part of the digital content review process and include the following:

- * The content review panel will consist of the State Board of Education members or their designees who have the expertise to comply with Sec. 31.0231, Education Code.

- * The State Board of Education shall have the opportunity to review and present a recommendation to the Commissioner of Education before an electronic textbook is approved.

- * If the State Board of Education has previously rejected an electronic textbook based upon its content, it cannot be placed on the Commissioner of Education's approved list.

State Virtual School Network

- ▶ Set priorities for review of courses:
 - high school graduation requirements
 - college credit or other advanced credit
 - benefit to students under the supervision of a juvenile probation department, the Texas Youth Commission, or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and
 - teacher shortage subject areas
- ▶ Provider paid review an option

Course Portability

- ▶ Added a section to TEC Chapter 30A
- ▶ Students enrolled in courses are entitled to continue enrollment if transferred to another education setting
- ▶ Explore online courses as an option for disciplinary alternative education programs to ensure students continue with academic coursework while in DAEP and when returning to original class

Eligibility

- ▶ Clarifies eligibility for military dependents
- ▶ Clarifies eligibility for students in foster care
- ▶ Limits grade levels to 3–12

Teacher & Instructor Qualifications

- ▶ Commissioner by rule shall:
 - establish procedures for verifying completion of appropriate professional development
 - establish professional development requirements applicable to college instructors in dual credit courses
- ▶ Districts may provide approved professional development to teachers whether or not employed by the district

State Virtual School Allotment

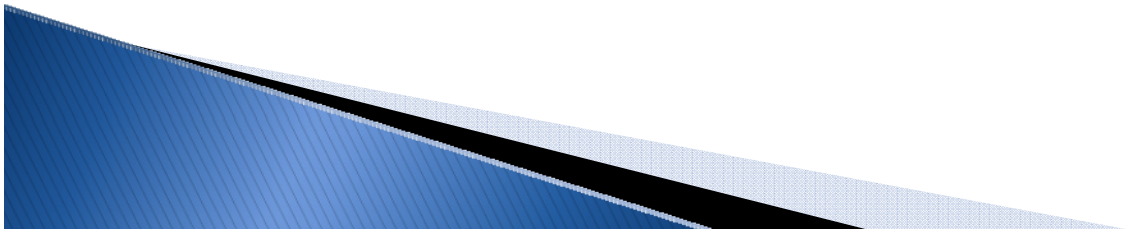
- ▶ Subchapter C, Chapter 42 amended
 - Adding Sections 42.159 and 42.160
- ▶ Definitions:
 - Electronic course = a course a semester in length
 - Normal course load = number of classes or credit hours generally required to be taken by a student generate full ADA
 - State Virtual School Network = system established by Chapter 30A

State Virtual School Allotment

- ▶ For each student who *successfully* completes an electronic course that:
 - satisfies a curriculum requirement for graduation
 - is provided through the TxVSN, and
 - is part of a normal student course load

State Virtual School Allotment

- ▶ For each student who *successfully* completes an electronic course :
 - The school district or open enrollment charter school that provided the course is entitled to an allotment of \$400



State Virtual School Allotment

- ▶ For each of its students who *successfully* completes an electronic course:
 - The school district or open-enrollment charter school in which the student is enrolled is entitled to an allotment of \$80 to reimburse the district or school for associated administrative costs

State Virtual School Allotment

- ▶ Commissioner may NOT provide partial funding on the basis of a student who successfully completes one or more modules of an electronic course but does not successfully complete the entire course
- ▶ Commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this section

Fees

- ▶ May charge a fee for to a full-time student enrollment
 - for a summer school course
 - for courses that are a load greater than that normally taken by students in the equivalent grade level
- ▶ Per course fee amount charged through the state virtual school network may not exceed the lesser of:
 - (1) the cost of providing the course; or
 - (2) \$400
- ▶ Receiving district may charge a nominal fee courses exceeding the normal course load

Electronic Course Pilot (eCP)

- ▶ Repealed TEC 29.909
- ▶ Folded into TEC Chapter 30A
- ▶ Grades 3–8 continue funding model under eCP
- ▶ Grades 9–12 use TxVSN allotment structure
- ▶ Calculate Average Daily Attendance
 - Contact hours,
 - Successful course completion, or
 - Method approved by the Commissioner
- ▶ Planning transition
- ▶ Commissioner rules, waiver authority

Research and Evaluation

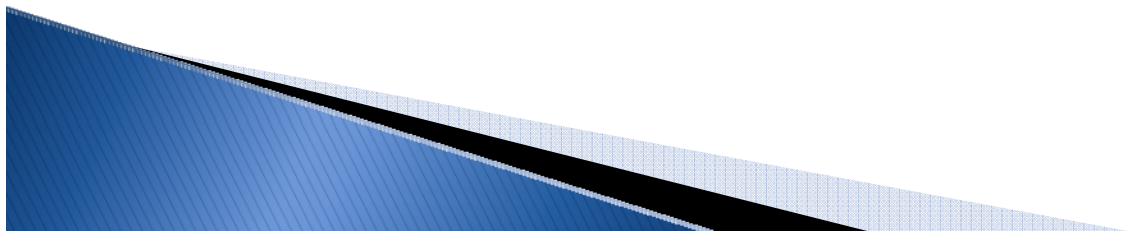
- ▶ Varying funding amounts based on course type
- ▶ Creating one or more series of courses for students in disciplinary or adjudicated placements
 - full-time program
 - supplemental course series
 - course credit recovery

Research and Evaluation

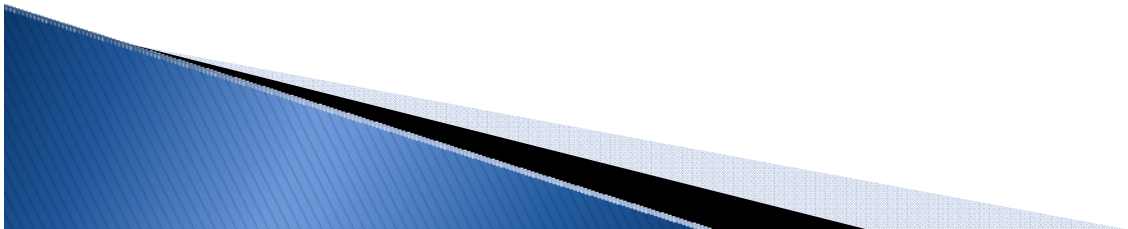
- ▶ Making language acquisition courses available via subscriptions or other means of access
 - Recommended mechanisms for ensuring progress towards language proficiency of students enrolled in those courses
- ▶ A study of dual credit programs and courses that may include electronic courses

Bill Process

- ▶ House Bill 3646 passed by the 81st Texas Legislature
- ▶ Signed by the Governor June 19, 2009
- ▶ Effective date September 1, 2009
- ▶ Extensive rulemaking authority
- ▶ Research results due January 1, 2011



Appropriations



Appropriations

- ▶ Technology Allotment (Article III)
- ▶ K-12 Databases—continuation of funding (Rider 78)
- ▶ Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) (Rider 80)
- ▶ Rural Technology Grants (R-Tech)
- ▶ TMSDS—continuation of funding
- ▶ Professional Development

Title II, Part D ARRA/ Stimulus

- ▶ Texas will receive approximately \$58,000,000
- ▶ Formula and Competitive
- ▶ Funding expected in July
- ▶ Technical Assistance

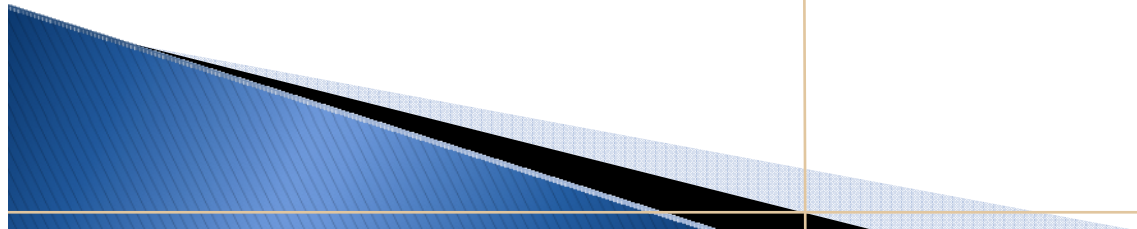
Title II, Part D Stimulus

- ▶ Competitive
 - Target Tech in Texas (T3)
 - 21st Century Classrooms
 - Grant expected to begin October

Title II, Part D Stimulus

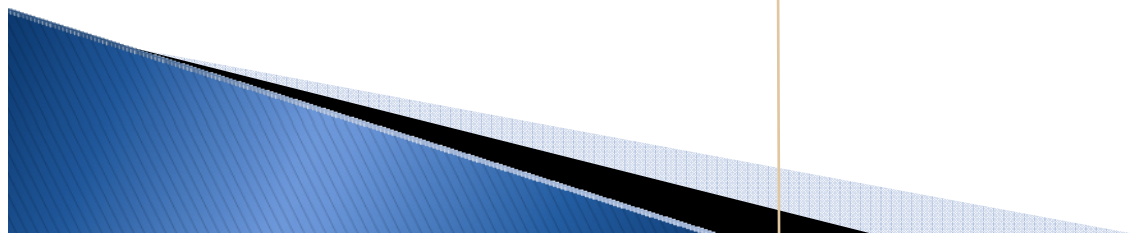
- ▶ Eligibility Requirements
 - Encourage Collaboratives
 - One high need LEA must be included within each application
- ▶ Move toward Target Tech

Focus Areas	Goal
Grades K-8 Technology Applications TEKS, Curriculum Connections, Implementation, and Mastery	Provide 21st Century classrooms and libraries to meet the 21st Century needs of students and teachers for grades K-8 in the state of Texas.
Grades 9-12 Content Area Connections and Transformed Teaching Practices	Provide 21st Century classrooms and libraries to meet the 21st Century needs of students and teachers for grades 9-12 in the state of Texas.



Focus Areas	Goal
Grades 9-12 Technology Applications Courses, 19 TAC Chapter 126	Provide 21st Century Technology Applications courses in the state of Texas.
Leadership, Planning, Support, and Communication	Provide technology leadership and a comprehensive planning process to ensure technology plans include clear goals, realistic strategies, needs assessment, implementation plan and benchmarks, professional development for teachers and administrators, budget, and evaluation.

Focus Areas	Goal
Technology, Networks, and Technical Support	Design, install, and maintain a technology and telecommunications infrastructure for communications and services that ensures equitable access as well as ongoing technical support.
Online Learning	Provide highly interactive, teacher-led educational opportunities for students and educators through participation in online courses and the use of blended learning that integrates face-to-face with online learning.



Focus Areas	Goal
School Libraries	Provide 21st Century school libraries that assist schools in meeting the Target Tech level on the STaR Chart and ensuring learner-centered technology and information access as specified in the Texas School Library Standard III <i>(www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/schoollibs/sls/stand3.html).</i>

Title II, Part D Stimulus

- ▶ Application due – July 9
- ▶ Review of applications – July
- ▶ Award – August
- ▶ Negotiations – September
- ▶ Start date – October 1

Title II, Part D Stimulus

Questions?

- t3@tea.state.tx.us

ARRA-Stimulus

- About ED
- Budget & Performance
- Press Room
- Publications
- Teaching Resources

- Answers
- Contact
- Help
- Jobs at ED
- Online Services
- Recursos en español
- State Information
- Web Survey

ED to Distribute \$44 Billion in 30-45 Days

Secretary Arne Duncan announced that \$44 billion in Recovery Act funding will be available to states in the next 30 to 45 days to help avert hundreds of thousands of estimated teacher layoffs while driving crucial education improvements and results for students.

- Press release
- Overview
- Title I
- Special ed
- Stabilization fund
- ED Recovery Act web page



Remarks to National Science Teachers Association

Secretary Arne Duncan said he wants to "launch a new era of science education in America."

Secretary Testifies on ED Budget

Secretary Arne Duncan testified before the House Budget Committee on the FY 2010 budget request for ED.

Budget Proposals to Increase College Access, Affordability

Secretary Arne Duncan highlighted provisions of ED's proposed FY 2010 budget overview that would dramatically expand student financial aid while making it simpler, more reliable and more efficient.

President Discusses Plan for Education

President Obama described his plan for improving education in remarks to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

- President's remarks
- Transcript



Anderson Appointed as Senior Advisor

Secretary Arne Duncan announced the appointment of Jo Anderson Jr. as senior advisor to ED. Anderson will conduct outreach to teachers and teacher organizations.

Education Plan

Read about the Obama-Biden education plan.

How do I find...?

- Grants to apply for
- Grant opportunities
- Educational resources, lesson plans
- Accreditation
- Money for college
- Research and statistics
- Facts and figures
- More...



ED.gov
Recovery

NoChild
LeftBehind

Information Centers:

- Grants & Contracts
- Student Financial Aid
- Research & Statistics
- Policy & Guidance
- Programs

Questions or Comments

