

CHAPTER 409

H.B. No. 2183

AN ACT

relating to the curriculum at public institutions of higher education.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.305 to read as follows:

*Sec. 51.305. CORE CURRICULUM. (a) In this section:*

*(1) "Institution of higher education" and "board" have the meanings assigned by Section 51.002 of this code.*

*(2) "Core curriculum" means the curriculum in the liberal arts, humanities, and sciences, and political, social, and cultural history, that all undergraduates of a particular institution of higher education are required to complete before receiving an associate or baccalaureate degree.*

*(b) Each institution of higher education shall submit to the board a statement of the specific content and the rationale and objectives of its core curriculum.*

*(c) The board shall appoint an advisory committee to review and evaluate the statements of core curriculum.*

*(d) In evaluating the statements of core curriculum, the advisory committee shall consult with the faculty of various institutions.*

*(e) The advisory committee shall recommend exemplary educational objectives for the use of the institutions in establishing a core curriculum, including the number of semester credit hours an institution should require for satisfaction of degree requirements.*

*(f) The legislature may appropriate funds to the board for allocation as incentive funding to encourage and reward institutions in establishing and achieving educational objectives consistent with the institution's core curriculum.*

*(g) The board by rule shall require each institution, at regular intervals, to review and evaluate the institution's core curriculum and to report the results of that review to the board.*

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 4, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting. Passed by the Senate on May 21, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 1987.

Effective June 17, 1987.