

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

May 27, 2017  
Date

Honorable Dan Patrick  
President of the Senate

Honorable Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs:

We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on May 27, 2017 <sup>HB 2937</sup> have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Eddie Lucio Jr.  
Sen. Eddie Lucio

Robert Nichols  
Sen. Robert Nichols

Ken Setigo  
Sen. Ken Setigo

J. H. Wojcik  
Sen. Juan Carlos Hernandez

Jose Rodriguez  
On the part of the Senate

Jose Rodriguez  
Sen. Jose Rodriguez

Terry Canales  
Rep. Terry Canales

Trent Ashby  
Rep. Trent Ashby

Mary Gonzalez  
Rep. Mary Gonzalez

Oscar Longoria  
Rep. Oscar Longoria

Poncho Nevarez  
On the part of the House  
Rep. Poncho Nevarez

## Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.



# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> Printing

H.B. No. 2937

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the establishment of a pilot program under which a  
3 licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to public high  
4 school students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 61.0764 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 61.0764. MEDICAL DUAL CREDIT PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The  
9 board shall develop and implement a pilot program under which a  
10 licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to high school  
11 students enrolled in a school district in partnership with the  
12 district.

13 (b) The board shall select one licensed hospital located in  
14 a county that borders the United Mexican States and that has a  
15 population of at least 700,000 and not more than 800,000 to  
16 participate in the pilot program. The hospital must be accredited  
17 by The Joint Commission and:

18 (1) have been issued:

19 (A) a certificate of approval to offer a program  
20 of instruction by the Texas Workforce Commission under Subchapter  
21 C, Chapter 132; or

22 (B) a certificate of authority to award a degree  
23 for a program of study by the board under Subchapter G of this  
24 chapter;

1           (2) be accredited to offer a degree program by the  
2 appropriate recognized regional accrediting agency; or

3           (3) must:

4           (A) have entered into a partnership with an  
5 institution of higher education to offer dual credit courses under  
6 the pilot program; and

7           (B) be seeking authorization to offer a program  
8 of instruction or study as described by Subdivision (1) or  
9 accreditation to offer a degree program as described by Subdivision  
10 (2).

11          (c) The licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b):

12           (1) may offer under the pilot program only dual credit  
13 courses that are in the curriculum of the hospital's program of  
14 instruction or study or degree program described by Subsection  
15 (b)(1), (2), or (3), as applicable; and

16           (2) subject to Subdivision (1) and Subsection (d),  
17 shall determine the content of each dual credit course offered  
18 under the pilot program with the goal of ensuring that the course is  
19 transferable for course credit applied toward a certificate or  
20 degree at an institution of higher education.

21          (d) The licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b)  
22 must design the dual credit courses offered under the pilot program  
23 to enable students to earn a variety of certifications,  
24 certificates, and degrees, including at least one certification or  
25 certificate while the student is in high school. The available  
26 certifications, certificates, and degrees must be selected based  
27 on:

1           (1) the needs of the hospital;

2           (2) the terms of the hospital's agreements with  
3 partnering school districts to provide the dual credit courses  
4 under the pilot program; and

5           (3) the goal of preparing students for employment in  
6 the health care field.

7           (e) A student enrolled in a dual credit course offered under  
8 the pilot program is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation  
9 School Program for the time spent by the student on that course, in  
10 accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner of education.

11           (f) A student may not be charged for tuition, fees, or  
12 required textbooks or other instructional materials for a dual  
13 credit course offered under the pilot program. The school district  
14 in which the student is enrolled is responsible for the cost of the  
15 student's tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other  
16 instructional materials for that course to the extent that those  
17 amounts are not waived by the licensed hospital.

18           (g) The board may adopt rules as necessary to implement this  
19 section.

20           SECTION 2. Section 61.0764, Education Code, as added by  
21 this Act, applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

22           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

**House Bill 2937**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.0091 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0091. MEDICAL DUAL CREDIT PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The *agency* shall develop and implement a pilot program under which a licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to high school students enrolled in a school district in partnership with the district.

(b) The *agency* shall select *up to three licensed hospitals* to participate in the pilot program. *Each hospital selected* must be accredited by The Joint Commission and:

(1) have been issued:

(A) a certificate of approval to offer a program of instruction by the Texas Workforce Commission under Subchapter C, Chapter 132; or

(B) a certificate of authority to award a degree for a program of study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under Subchapter G, Chapter 61; or

(2) be accredited to offer a degree program by a recognized accrediting agency, *as that term is defined by Section 61.003.*

(c) A licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b):

(1) may offer under the pilot program only dual credit courses

SENATE VERSION (IE)

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.0764 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.0764. MEDICAL DUAL CREDIT PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The *board* shall develop and implement a pilot program under which a licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to high school students enrolled in a school district in partnership with the district.

(b) The *board* shall select *one licensed hospital located in a county that borders the United Mexican States and that has a population of at least 700,000 and not more than 800,000* to participate in the pilot program. *The hospital must be accredited by The Joint Commission and:*

(1) have been issued:

(A) a certificate of approval to offer a program of instruction by the Texas Workforce Commission under Subchapter C, Chapter 132; or

(B) a certificate of authority to award a degree for a program of study by the board under Subchapter G of this chapter;

(2) be accredited to offer a degree program by *the appropriate* recognized *regional* accrediting agency; or

(3) *must:*

(A) *have entered into a partnership with an institution of higher education to offer dual credit courses under the pilot program; and*

(B) *be seeking authorization to offer a program of instruction or study as described by Subdivision (1) or accreditation to offer a degree program as described by Subdivision (2).* [FA1(1)]

(c) *The* licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b):

(1) may offer under the pilot program only dual credit courses

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SECTION 1. Same as Senate version.



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Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

that are in the curriculum of the hospital's *authorized* program of instruction or study or *accredited* degree program, as applicable; and

(2) subject to Subdivision (1) and Subsection (d), shall determine the content of each dual credit course offered under the pilot program.

(d) A licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b) must design the dual credit courses offered under the pilot program to enable students to earn a variety of certifications, certificates, and degrees. The available certifications, certificates, and degrees must be selected based on:

(1) the needs of the hospital;

(2) the terms of the hospital's agreements with partnering school districts to provide the dual credit courses under the pilot program; and

(3) the goal of preparing students for employment in the health care field.

(e) A student enrolled in a dual credit course offered under the pilot program is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program for the time spent by the student on that course, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner.

(f) A student may not be charged for tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials for a dual credit course offered under the pilot program. The school district in which the student is enrolled is responsible for the cost of the student's tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials for that course to the extent that those

SENATE VERSION (IE)

that are in the curriculum of the hospital's program of instruction or study or degree program *described by Subsection (b)(1), (2), or (3)*, as applicable; and

(2) subject to Subdivision (1) and Subsection (d), shall determine the content of each dual credit course offered under the pilot program *with the goal of ensuring that the course is transferable for course credit applied toward a certificate or degree at an institution of higher education.* [FA1(2)]

(d) The licensed hospital selected under Subsection (b) must design the dual credit courses offered under the pilot program to enable students to earn a variety of certifications, certificates, and degrees, including at least one certification or certificate while the student is in high school. The available certifications, certificates, and degrees must be selected based on:

(1) the needs of the hospital;

(2) the terms of the hospital's agreements with partnering school districts to provide the dual credit courses under the pilot program; and

(3) the goal of preparing students for employment in the health care field. [FA1(3)]

(e) A student enrolled in a dual credit course offered under the pilot program is entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program for the time spent by the student on that course, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner of education.

(f) A student may not be charged for tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials for a dual credit course offered under the pilot program. The school district in which the student is enrolled is responsible for the cost of the student's tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials for that course to the extent that those

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amounts are not waived by the licensed hospital *offering the course*.

(g) The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2. *This Act* applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

*No equivalent provision.*

*No equivalent provision.*

*No equivalent provision.*

*No equivalent provision.*

*No equivalent provision.*

SECTION 3. Effective date.

amounts are not waived by the licensed hospital. [FA1(4)]

(g) The board may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2. *Section 61.0764, Education Code, as added by this Act*, applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

SECTION \_\_. Section 61.0512(a), Education Code, is amended. [FA2]

SECTION \_\_. Section 61.0572(d), Education Code, is amended. [FA2]

SECTION \_\_. Section 61.058(b), Education Code, is amended. [FA2]

SECTION \_\_. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended. [FA2]

SECTION \_\_. The changes in law made by this Act in amending Chapter 61, Education Code, apply only to a proposal for acquisition or construction made on or after the effective date of this Act. A proposal for acquisition or construction made before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the proposal was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. [FA2]

SECTION 3. Same as House version.

SECTION 2. Same as Senate version.

Same as House version.

Same as House version.

Same as House version.

Same as House version.

Same as House version.

SECTION 3. Same as House version.



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 27, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** **HB2937** by Canales (Relating to the establishment of a pilot program under which a licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to public high school students.),  
**Conference Committee Report**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

Under the provisions of the bill, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) would be required to develop and implement the medical dual credit program, through a which hospital meeting certain qualifications, selected by THECB, could offer dual credit courses to high school students under a partnership with a school district or institution of higher education. Students participating in the medical dual credit program could not be charged for tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials; school districts would be required to cover these costs to the extent that they were not waived by the hospital offering the program. Participating students would be entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program for the time spent in the dual credit course, in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

According to THECB and TEA, there would be costs associated with these activities, including developing and implementing the pilot program, adopting necessary rules, and developing data elements to related to the program. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed the costs to THECB and TEA associated with the bill would not be significant and could be absorbed within existing resources. To the extent that the hospital selected to participate in the pilot program partners with public institutions of higher education to offer these dual credit courses, there may be a cost to the state; however it is assumed these costs would not be significant and could be absorbed within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

According to TEA, the impact to school districts would depend upon whether participating hospitals waive relevant course costs including tuition and textbooks, and whether Foundation School Program funding would cover other costs of the pilot program. TEA also assumes that participating school districts would be required to provide supervisory staff and transportation to and from the hospital.

**Source Agencies:** 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices,


720 The University of Texas System Administration, 781 Higher  
Education Coordinating Board, 701 Texas Education Agency, 320 Texas  
Workforce Commission, 768 Texas Tech University System  
Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration

**LBB Staff:** UP, AKU, THo, JJ, RC

**Certification of Compliance with  
Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure**

Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, requires a copy of a conference committee report signed by a majority of each committee of the conference to be furnished to each member of the committee in person or, if unable to deliver in person, by placing a copy in the member's newspaper mailbox at least one hour before the report is furnished to each member of the house under Rule 13, Section 10(a). The paper copies of the report submitted to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), must contain a certificate that the requirement of Rule 13, Section 6(b), has been satisfied, and that certificate must be attached to the copy of the report furnished to each member under Rule 13, Section 10(d). Failure to comply with this requirement is not a sustainable point of order under Rule 13.

I certify that a copy of the conference committee report on HB2937 was furnished to each member of the conference committee in compliance with Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, before submission of the paper copies of the report to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), House Rules of Procedure.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

5/27/17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

17R337(3)