

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 111

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to undergraduate course credit granted by certain public
3 institutions of higher education for completion of the
4 international baccalaureate diploma program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 51.968 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.968. COURSE CREDIT FOR COMPLETION OF INTERNATIONAL
9 BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "international
10 baccalaureate diploma program" means the curriculum and
11 examinations leading to an international baccalaureate diploma
12 awarded by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

13 (b) The governing board of each institution of higher
14 education shall adopt and implement a policy to grant undergraduate
15 course credit to entering freshman students who have successfully
16 completed the international baccalaureate diploma program.

17 (c) In the policy, the governing board shall:

18 (1) outline the conditions necessary for the
19 institution to grant the course credit, including the minimum
20 required scores on examinations for courses constituting the
21 international baccalaureate diploma program;

22 (2) as provided by Subsection (d), set the number of
23 semester credit hours or the equivalent that the institution may
24 grant to a student who successfully completes the diploma program;

1 and

2 (3) identify the specific course credit or other
3 academic requirements of the institution that the student satisfies
4 by successfully completing the diploma program.

5 (d) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, an
6 institution of higher education shall grant at least 24 semester
7 credit hours or the equivalent in appropriate subject areas to an
8 entering freshman student for completion of the international
9 baccalaureate diploma program. The institution may grant fewer
10 than 24 semester credit hours if the student received a score of
11 less than four on an examination administered as part of the diploma
12 program. The institution may grant fewer credit hours only with
13 respect to courses that are substantially related to the subject of
14 that examination.

15 (e) The governing board of each institution of higher
16 education shall report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
17 Board the policy adopted and implemented under this section and
18 shall make the policy available to the public on the institution's
19 Internet site.

20 SECTION 2. The governing board of each public institution
21 of higher education in this state shall:

22 (1) not later than December 31, 2005, adopt and make
23 available to the public and to the Texas Higher Education
24 Coordinating Board the policy required by Section 51.968, Education
25 Code, as added by this Act; and

26 (2) implement the policy beginning with admissions to
27 the institution for the 2006-2007 academic year.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.