

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
87R9499 CXP-F

S.B. 1227
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Higher Education
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a rigorous credit-by-examination program that allows students from a wide range of ages and backgrounds to demonstrate mastery of introductory college-level material and earn college credit. The examinations are designed, developed, and approved by college and university faculty, and research consistently shows that students who score a 50 or higher on CLEP exams experience greater academic success in college and improved college completion rates.

S.B. 1227 adopts a uniform statewide credit-granting policy for the College-Level Examination Program most commonly referred to as CLEP. This bill will remove roadblocks for students and support the 60x30TX higher education strategic plan.

As proposed, S.B. 1227 amends current law relating to the granting of undergraduate course credit at public institutions of higher education for certain scores on examinations administered through the College-Level Examination Program.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 51.968, Education Code, by adding Subsection (c-2), as follows:

(c-2) Prohibits an institution of higher education, in establishing the minimum required score on a CLEP examination for granting course credit for a particular lower-division course under Subsection (c) (relating to requiring the institution to establish conditions for granting course credit and to identify the correct course credit or requirements), from requiring a score higher than the minimum score recommended by the American Council on Education for granting course credit for that examination.

SECTION 2. Provides that Section 51.968(c-2), Education Code, as added by this Act, applies to entering freshman students at public institutions of higher education beginning with the 2022 spring semester.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2021.