

HCS HB 1613 -- REMEDIATION PREVENTION

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

This bill allows each student during his or her ninth grade year at a public school or charter school to develop a personal plan of study with help from the school's guidance counselors that must be reviewed at least annually by school personnel and the student's parent or guardian and updated based on the needs of the student and requires, no later than January 1, 2017, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to develop a process for recognition of a school district's program for developing personalized plans of study for all students prior to entering ninth grade.

The bill requires each school district to develop a policy and implement a system by July 1, 2018, for identifying students in their ninth grade year who are at risk of not being ready for college-level work or for entry-level career positions. By January 1, 2017, DESE must develop a process for recognition of a school district's program of academic and career counseling for these specified students.

The bill repeals the provision that prohibits the use of the reported remediation rate for any other purpose and requires:

(1) DESE to conduct a review of its policies and procedures relating to best practices in remediation as identified by the Department of Higher Education (DHE) to ensure that districts are informed about and held accountable for implementing the best practices. DESE must present its results to the Joint Committee on Education by October 31, 2017;

(2) DHE, in consultation with DESE to develop a report that analyzes the results of the remediation rate report relative to student performance on the statewide assessment for English I and Algebra I by July 1, 2019; and

(3) This bill requires school districts to adopt a policy to permit a waiver to students with a disability if recommended by the student's IEP (Individualized Education Program) committee.

This bill is similar to HB 377 (2015).