



RYAN GUILLEN
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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**GUILLEN TO INCREASE QUALITY AND CONSISTENCY IN
DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**

H.B. 1638 Sets Statewide Goals for Academic Dual Credit Programs.

AUSTIN - State Representative Ryan Guillen (D—Rural South Texas) has filed HB 1638 to increase quality and consistency among dual credit programs by requiring the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to create joint statewide goals for academic dual credit programs and require high schools and postsecondary institutions to align with those goals.

"In order to ensure Texas students are properly prepared for higher education, our high schools and postsecondary institutions must have the consistency, support, and alignment that enable them to do so," said Guillen. "Dual credit courses need to provide Texas students with the knowledge and experience necessary for them to succeed at the next level of education."

Although early college high school and career and technical education programs have statutorily established goals and program evaluation measures, academic dual credit does not. As a result, program accountability is inconsistent. The state lacks a comprehensive system to oversee and evaluate dual credit program outcomes and has not fully assessed which programs present the most efficient or effective models. National best practices identify rigor, consistency, and quality as essential to effective dual credit programs. HB 1638 would help create goals to establish course equivalency and credit standards, describe support available to students, and establish each institution's roles and responsibilities to ensure students' success.

"Texas should strive to provide Texas students with the highest quality of education we can muster," said Guillen. "With this legislation we can ensure Texas students experience the quality, rigor, and consistency of education required to excel in higher education forums."

Representative Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

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