



A.B. 096

An Act to amend the Dixie Education Code.

IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DIXIE

April 20th, 2021

The People of the Great State of Dixie, represented in the Assembly, do enact as follows —

§1. Short title. This Act shall be referred to as the “Education Code Amendment”.

§2. Amendments to Title 1, Chapter 1. [Title 1, Chapter 1 of the Dixie \(Texas\) Education Code](#) shall be amended in the following manner —

(a) By amending Sec. 1.001, clause (a) to read as follows —

(a) This code applies to all educational institutions **in the State of Dixie** ~~supported in whole or in part by state tax funds~~ unless specifically excluded by **Sec. 1001, clause (b)** of this code.

(b) By amending Sec. 1002, clause (a) to read as follows —

(a) An educational institution undertaking to provide education, services, or activities to any individual within the jurisdiction or geographical boundaries of the educational institution shall provide equal opportunities to all individuals within its jurisdiction or geographical boundaries **without discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, or otherwise** pursuant to this code.

(c) By amending Sec. 1003 to read as follows —

Sec. 1.003. ~~FLYING OF THE UNITED STATES AND TEXAS FLAGS.~~ On all regular school days, every school and other educational institution to which this code applies shall fly the **flag of the State of Dixie and any other appropriate flag of such school or institution’s choosing.** ~~United States and Texas flags.~~

(d) By striking Sec. 1004 and renumbering subsequent sections accordingly.

§3. Amendment to Mission, Objectives, and Goals. [Title 2, Subtitle A, Chapter 6 of the Dixie \(Texas\) Education Code](#) shall be amended in the following manner —

(a) By amending Sec. 4001, clause (a) to read as follows —

(a) The mission of the public education system of this state is to ensure that all ~~Dixie Texas~~ children have access to a quality education that enables them to achieve their potential and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic, ~~and~~ educational, **and political** opportunities of our state and nation. That mission is grounded on the conviction that a general diffusion of knowledge is essential for the welfare of this state and for the preservation of the **democratic process of the state and the rights and liberties of its citizens.** ~~liberties and rights of citizens.~~ It is further grounded on the conviction ~~that a successful public education system is directly related to a strong, dedicated, and supportive family and that~~ parental involvement in the school is essential for the maximum educational achievement of a child.

§4. Amendments to Organization and Governance. [Title 2, Subtitle B, Chapter 7, Subchapter A of the Dixie \(Texas\) Education Code](#) shall be amended in the following manner —

(a) By amending Sec. 7003 to read as follows —

Sec. 7.003. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY. An educational function not specifically delegated to the agency or the board under this code **may be delegated to the agency or the board with the consent of the Governor.** ~~is reserved to and shall be performed by school districts or open-enrollment charter schools.~~

(b) By striking Sec. 7004 and its subsections and renumbering subsequent sections accordingly.

(c) By amending Sec. 7022 to read as follows —

Sec. 7.022. INTERNAL AUDIT. The auditor appointed by the commissioner under Section 7.055 shall coordinate the agency's efforts to evaluate and improve its internal operations. **The auditor shall conduct an audit no less than every two years, or at an earlier date if authorized by the Governor, to carry out the duties established by this section.**

(d) By amending Sec. 7023 to read as follows —

Sec. 7.023. AGENCY EMPLOYMENT POLICY. A decision of the agency relating to employment shall be made without regard to a person's ~~race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin.~~ **race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.**

(e) By striking Sec. 7025 and renumbering subsequent sections accordingly.

(f) By amending Sec. 7027, clause (a) to read as follows —

(a) The Texas Music Foundation account is established as ~~an separate~~ account in the general revenue fund. The account is composed of money deposited to the credit of the account under Section 504.639, Transportation Code, **in addition to no less than five percent (5%) of the general revenue fund.** Money in the account may be used only for the purposes of this section.

§5. Amendments to School Districts. [Title 2, Subtitle C, Chapter 11 of the Dixie \(Texas\) Education Code](#) shall be amended in the following manner —

(a) By extending Sec. 11.003 to be enacted for no more than 10 years following enactment of this Act.

(b) By amending Sec. 11.051, subsection (b) to read as follows —

(b) The board consists of no less than the number of members equal to the cube root of the population of the jurisdiction of the district, with each member representing no less and no more than one (1) geographic board district of relatively equal population compared to the other board districts. ~~The board consists of the number of members that the district had on September 1, 1995.~~

(c) By striking Sec. 11.051, subsection (c) and renumbering subsequent sections and subsections accordingly.

(d) By striking Sec. 11.0511 and appending the following text in replacement —

SEC. 11.0511. STUDENT TRUSTEES. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Title, the board of trustees of each school district shall compose of additional student voting members, of which there shall be a number equal to

one-third of the cube root of the population of the jurisdiction of the school district.

(b) Student trustees shall be elected from students in the school district in the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades at the beginning and at the midpoint of each school year and shall be entitled to the full rights of any regular member of the board of trustees, including the right to vote on matters before the board, on the board of trustees. If a school district of more than 15,000 students deems appropriate, it may delegate the election of student trustees to individual high schools; if delegated, the balance of student trustees elected from each high school must be proportional to that high school's student population.

(1) Student trustees may be recalled by a majority vote of the appropriate body that elected them following a petition in support of recall signed by a number of students equal to no less than twenty percent (20%) of the number of ballots cast in the most recent election for student trustee in the said appropriate body.

(c) The board of trustees, upon the election of its student trustees, shall formulate rules, with the consent of said student trustees by a majority vote, to fill a vacancy in a student trustee position that respects the democratic right of students in the district to elect student trustees to represent them.

(d) Student trustees may not participate in a closed session of the board of trustees pertaining to personnel matters unless invited by the members of the board of trustees elected by the voters of the jurisdiction of the school district.

(e) Student trustees are not entitled to receive benefits or compensation as normally would be afforded to the members of the board of trustees elected by the voters of the jurisdiction of the school district.

(f) The school district may grant to student trustees not more than one academic course credit in a subject area determined appropriate by the district.

(e) By striking Sec. 11.052 and renumbering subsequent sections accordingly.

(f) By amending Sec. 11.053, subsection (a) (now amended to be Sec. 11.052 in accordance with Section 4, subsection (e) of this Act) to read as follows —

The board of trustees of an independent school district that adopts a redistricting plan under ~~Section 11.052~~ **Section 11.051** may provide for the trustees in office when the plan is adopted or the school district is redistricted to serve for the remainder of their terms in accordance with this section.

(g) By striking Sec. 11.057 and appending the following text in replacement —

Sec. 11.057. DETERMINATION OF RESULTS; MAJORITY

REQUIREMENT. (a) In an independent school district in which the positions of regular trustee (as opposed to a student trustee) are elected under the provisions of this Chapter, the candidate who receives an absolute majority of votes cast is elected.

(b) Should no candidate in a district for election to the position of regular trustee receive a majority of votes cast, then a runoff election featuring no more than the candidates receiving the greatest and second-greatest amount of votes will be held in accordance with the provisions of the Dixie Elections Code no later than two months following the initial election unless extended by the Governor on account of an emergency preventing proper administration of election to the position of regular trustee.

(h) By striking Sec. 11.058, subsection (a) and renumbering subsequent sections and subsections accordingly.

§6. Enactment. This Act shall come into effect immediately upon enactment.