

- SUBJECT:** Developing a career-oriented foreign language program for students
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 7 ayes — Aycock, Deshotel, Dutton, Farney, Galindo, González, K. King  
0 nays  
4 absent — Allen, Bohac, Huberty, VanDeaver
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* David Anderson, Arlington ISD Board of Trustees; Lindsay Gustafson, Texas Classroom Teachers Association)  
Against — None  
On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code, sec. 28.002(a)(2) establishes the required enrichment curriculum for students in public schools. Some have called for the curriculum to include a career-oriented foreign language program to provide instruction in industry-related terminology.
- DIGEST:** HB 1431 would require the State Board of Education, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education and business and industry leaders, to develop an advanced language course that a school district could use to provide students with instruction in industry-related terminology that would prepare students to communicate in a language other than English in a specific professional, business, or industry environment.  
  
This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2015.