

- SUBJECT:** Providing for low-cost educational materials in dual credit program
- COMMITTEE:** Higher Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — C. Turner, Stucky, Button, Frullo, Howard, E. Johnson, Pacheco, Schaefer, Walle
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Smithee, Wilson
- WITNESSES:** For — Dustin Meador, Texas Association of Community Colleges (*Registered, but did not testify*: Dana Harris, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Dana Chiodo, CompTIA; Daniel Womack, Dow; Mike Meroney, Texas Association of Manufacturers; Fedora Galasso, Young Invincibles)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Rex Peebles, Higher Education Coordinating Board)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code sec. 28.009 requires each school district to implement college credit programs in which students may earn the equivalent of at least 12 semester hours of college credit. Sec. 28.009(b) authorizes the education commissioner to adopt rules as necessary concerning the duties of school districts and the Higher Education Board to adopt rules concerning public higher education institutions in executing college credit programs.
- Some have noted that the rising costs of textbooks can decrease access to these credit programs for some students.
- DIGEST:** HB 3650 would require any agreement made between a school district and a public institution of higher education to provide for a dual credit program to consider the use of free or low-cost open educational resources

in courses offered under the dual credit program.

The bill would apply only to agreements entered into or renewed on or after September 1, 2019.

The 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, 2019.