relating to the dissemination of information regarding employment opportunities in this state to secondary school students.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 302, Labor Code, is amended by adding Section 302.014 to read as follows:

Sec. 302.014. EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS. (a) The commission shall provide the Texas Education Agency with information at least each quarter regarding current and projected employment opportunities in this state, disaggregated by county or other appropriate region.

(b) The Texas Education Agency shall provide the information obtained under Subsection (a) to school districts for use in local planning and implementation of career and technical education and training programs.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 18, 2013: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 17, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 10, 2013.

Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 213

H.B. No. 842

AN ACT

relating to the provision of certain opportunities to career and technical students by public school districts under the college credit program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 28.009, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a–1) to read as follows:

(a–1) A program implemented under this section may provide a student the opportunity to earn credit for a course or activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours:

(1) that:

(A) satisfies a requirement necessary to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate or an associate degree; and

(B) is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and

(2) for which a student may earn credit concurrently toward both the student’s high school diploma and postsecondary academic requirements.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2013–2014 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.
CHAPTER 214

H.B. No. 2201

AN ACT
relating to increasing the courses offered in the career and technology education curriculum.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.00222 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.00222. INCREASE IN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND CAREER-RELATED COURSES. (a) Not later than September 1, 2014, the State Board of Education shall ensure that at least six advanced career and technology education or technology applications courses, including a course in personal financial literacy that is consistent with Section 28.0021, are approved to satisfy a fourth credit in mathematics required for high school graduation.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2015, the commissioner shall review and report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the presiding officer of each standing committee of the legislature with primary responsibility over public primary and secondary education regarding the progress of increasing the number of courses approved for the career and technology education or technology applications curriculum. The commissioner shall include in the report a detailed description of any new courses, including instructional materials and required equipment, if any.

(c) This section expires September 1, 2015.

SECTION 2. Section 28.025(b-2), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirements for the third and fourth [a] mathematics credits [course] under Subsection (b-1)(1) [taken after the successful completion of Algebra I and geometry and either after the successful completion of or concurrently with Algebra II] or the third and fourth [a] science credits [course] under Subsection (b-1)(1) [taken after the successful completion of biology and chemistry and either after the successful completion of or concurrently with physics] by successfully completing an advanced career and technical course designated by the State Board of Education as containing substantively similar and rigorous academic content. [A student may use the option provided by this subsection for not more than two courses.]

SECTION 3. Section 28.027(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The State Board of Education shall establish a process under which an applied STEM course may be reviewed and approved for purposes of satisfying the mathematics and science curriculum requirements for the recommended high school program imposed under Section 28.025(b-1)(1)(A) through substitution of the applied STEM course for a specific mathematics or science course otherwise required under the recommended high school program [and completed during the student’s fourth year of mathematics or science course work]. The State Board of Education may only approve a course to substitute for a mathematics course taken after successful completion of Algebra I and geometry [and after successful completion of or concurrently with Physics]. The State Board of Education may only approve a course to substitute for a science course taken after successful completion of biology [and chemistry and after successful completion of or concurrently with Physics].