BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R3475 BDH-D S.B. 237 By: Ellis Education 2/10/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law does not provide public school students and parents with information about higher education and financial aid opportunities. College course counseling and advising for high school and middle school students will give them the understanding of what is needed to go to college. S.B. 237 would require each school district to establish strategies to provide students and parents information about higher education, including financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 237 provides public school students and their parents with information about higher education and financial aid opportunities.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 11.252(a), Education Code, to require a school improvement plan to provide strategies for middle school, junior high school, and high school students information about higher education, including financial aid opportunities. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 21.451(a), Education Code, to require staff development minimum standards to include guidelines for the cooperation of principals, counselors, and teachers to provide middle school, junior high school, and high school students and those students' parents with information about higher education, including financial aid opportunities.

SECTION 3. Provides that this Act applies beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause. Effective date: upon passage.