

Sign Up | Edit Account | Make This Your Homepage



deal of the day!

shop now >

drugstore



Search/Keyword

GO

Select Category

HOME NEWS WEATHER TRAFFIC SPORTS SHOWS ON DEMAND EXPERTS JOBS

750+ Stations | HD Radio



Browse All - News - Sports - Entertainment - Lifestyle - Weather - Traffic  
 LOCAL NEWS | NATIONAL NEWS | MUSIC NEWS | WEIRD NEWS | POLITICS | PHOTOS

December 10, 2008

Email article | Print article | RSS

## Business Group Proposes Major Education Overhaul

**Says is vital to make Texas graduates able to go on to college or the workforce**

By Jim Forsyth  
 Monday, November 24, 2008

A business group says it will approach the legislature with a series of proposal to make Texas high school graduates more competitive in the workplace, 1200 WOAI news reports today.

"This is vital in the economic development of our state, for our continued growth and prosperity," said Bartell Zachry, Chairman of Zachry Construction Company and a member of the Texas Coalition for a Competitive Workforce.

The proposals are far reaching and will affect nearly every facet of education, according to Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Association of Business.

Among them, changing the prime measuring stick for public school accountability from TAKS test results, to a demonstrated ability to make a 'skillful transition to skilled employment, advanced military training, associates degree, bachelors degree or technical certification, without the need for remediation.'

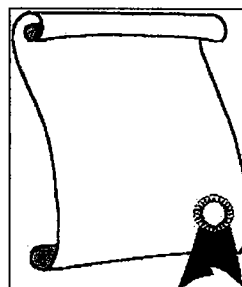
Hammond said as many as fifty percent of graduates from Texas public schools today need remedial help before being able to compete at the community college level or on the job site.

Brooke Terry of the Texas Public Policy Foundation says many of the proposed changes will affect teachers.

"Streamline the teacher certification process, so someone from private industry can change careers easily if he or she chooses to become a public schoolteacher," she said.

Currently, teacher certification include impediments to mid career transition, including the need to receive additional college education and undergo student teaching.

Terry said the state should streamline and improve its aggressive 'pay-for-performance' program, awarding teachers who turn out students who are more highly qualified



### More Stories

- Bexar Bans Fireworks Over New Year's
- Democrats Vow to Overturn New Drivers License Restrictions
- Two Shot, One Dies in Wreck
- Mayoral candidates using "social networking" websites to get out the vote.
- Pay Raise a Done Deal for Sculley
- Research Shows Common Prostate Cancer Prevention Worthless
- Spurs double OT Mavericks, 133-126
- Local Employment Picture Remains Strong
- Proposal Would Give Governor 'Power of Life and Death'
- City Will Crack Down on Short-Term Motel Rentals
- EXCLUSIVE: Agreement Would Raise Sculley Pay to \$315K
- Jerry: Barber comments came out wrong

- Free Samples
- Grocery Coupons
- Baby Coupons
- Pet Coupons
- Beauty Coupons
- Movies & Music
- Free Stuff
- View All

CoolSavings

Browse all videos

- Fired Wall Street exec walks the streets [Play](#)
- RAW: Jim Carrey runs around a London bus [Play](#)
- Wheel chair dancing [Play](#)
- LATEST: Dem. Governor of Illinois arrested [Play](#) | [Read](#)
- eBay sellers auction Obama's senate seat! [Play](#)
- Woman drives off with tow truck attached to car! [Play](#)

graduates.

Another proposal, to require high schools to offer dual credit courses or courses which will count toward a graduate's professional or technical certification, and make them available to all students.

"Because if you come out of high school and you already have college credit, or you are halfway to technical certification or you are halfway to a state license, you are a lot more likely to go ahead and continue your study, and graduate and become a productive member of society, said the Coalition's Andy Erban.

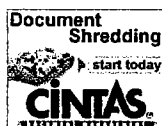
The business groups also call for reforming the core credit requirements for high schools, and raising Texas curriculum standards 'immediately' to reflect the knowledge and skills students need to be college or career ready.

Zachry said in the massive construction business he runs, it is not uncommon to find job applicants who can't master simple skills like reading, showing up on time, or following the needed instructions to meet on-the-job safety standards.

**NEWS:** [Local News](#) | [National News](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Political](#) | [Business](#) | [WOAI News Team](#) | [FOX News Headlines](#)  
**WEATHER:** [Live Radar](#) | [Storm Watch](#)  
**TRAFFIC:** [Traffic Map](#) | [Traffic Cams](#)  
**SPORTS:** [Spurs](#) | [Dallas Cowboys](#) | [Ticket 760](#) | [Walter's Blog](#) | [Texas Longhorns](#)  
**SHOWS:** [Program Schedule](#) | [SAFN w/ Charlie Parker](#) | [Glenn Beck](#) | [Rush Limbaugh](#) | [Sean Hannity](#) | [Joe Pags](#) | [Dennis Miller](#) | [Coast to Coast](#)  
**ON DEMAND:** [Podcast WOAI](#) | [Music On Demand](#) | [Photos and Fun](#) | [Contests](#) | [San Antonio Events](#) | [San Antonio Deals](#) | [Games](#) | [Sudoku](#) | [Movie Info](#) | [SA Airport Travel Times](#)  
**EXPERTS:** [Belden's Automotive](#) | [KM Builders](#) | [Advanced Smile Care](#) | [Amazing Siding](#) | [Gardening](#) | [Culligan Water](#) | [Ultra Vision](#) | [Cintas Document Management](#)  
**JOBS:** [Clear Channel Jobs](#) | [San Antonio Jobs](#)

[Browse 750+ Radio Stations](#)   [10,000+ Music Videos, Live Performances and More!](#)

[ARTISTS](#) - submit your music for on air and online consideration. [Click for details!](#)



© 2008

[TERMS OF USE](#) | [PRIVACY STATEMENT](#) | [COPYRIGHT and TRADEMARK NOTICE](#) | [EEO PUBLIC FILE](#) | [ADVERTISE WITH US](#)

Some images on this site © 2008 Getty Images

Some images on this site © WireImage.com or WireImage.com contributing photographers