

By: Dominguez

H.B. No. 184

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to excused absences from public school caused by circumstances arising out of a statewide or local disaster.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, as amended by S.B. No. 289, Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, is amended by adding Subsection (b-8) and amending Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(b-8) If a state of disaster or local disaster is declared under Chapter 418, Government Code, for an area in which a school district is wholly or partly located, the district shall excuse a student whose parent, legal guardian, or person standing in parental relation to the student notifies the district that the student's absence is caused by circumstances arising out of that disaster.

(d) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), (b-7), (b-8), or (c) may not be penalized for that absence and shall be counted as if the student attended school for purposes of calculating the average daily attendance of students in the school district. A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), (b-7), (b-8), or (c) shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily completes the school work, the day of absence shall

1 be counted as a day of compulsory attendance.

2 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
3 school year.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
9 legislative session.