

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 289
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 6, 2021; March 3, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 1, 2021,
 1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
 1-5 April 1, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Hall			X	
1-11 Hughes			X	
1-12 Menéndez	X			
1-13 Paxton	X			
1-14 Perry	X			
1-15 Powell	X			
1-16 Schwertner	X			
1-17 West	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to excused absences from public school for certain
 1-22 students to obtain a driver's license or learner license.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by
 1-25 adding Subsection (b-7) and amending Subsection (d) to read as
 1-26 follows:

1-27 (b-7) A school district may excuse a student who is 15 years
 1-28 of age or older from attending school to visit a driver's license
 1-29 office to obtain a driver's license or learner license, provided
 1-30 that:

1-31 (1) the district may not excuse more than one day of
 1-32 school during the period the student is enrolled in high school for
 1-33 each of the following purposes:

1-34 (A) obtaining a driver's license; or
 1-35 (B) obtaining a learner license; and

1-36 (2) the district verifies the student's visit to the
 1-37 driver's license office in accordance with procedures adopted by
 1-38 the district.

1-39 (d) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b),
 1-40 (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), (b-7), or (c) may not be penalized for
 1-41 that absence and shall be counted as if the student attended school
 1-42 for purposes of calculating the average daily attendance of
 1-43 students in the school district. A student whose absence is excused
 1-44 under Subsection (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), (b-7), or (c)
 1-45 shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up school work missed on
 1-46 those days. If the student satisfactorily completes the school
 1-47 work, the day of absence shall be counted as a day of compulsory
 1-48 attendance.

1-49 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
 1-50 school year.

1-51 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-52 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-53 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-54 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-55 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-56 * * * * *