

1-1 By: Dutton (Senate Sponsor - Birdwell) H.B. No. 1297  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 24, 2023;  
 1-3 April 24, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Education; May 10, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 11, Nays 0; May 10, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15				X
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20				X

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to vision screenings for students in public or private  
 1-24 school.

1-25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-26 SECTION 1. Section 36.003, Health and Safety Code, is  
 1-27 amended by adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

1-28 (1-a) "Electronic eye chart" means any computerized or  
 1-29 other electronic system, device, or method of displaying on an  
 1-30 electronic screen medically accepted and properly sized optotypes,  
 1-31 which may be letters, numbers, or symbols, a health care  
 1-32 practitioner or other person uses to assess an individual's visual  
 1-33 acuity. The term does not include an automated computer program  
 1-34 that assesses an individual's visual acuity through the  
 1-35 individual's interaction with the program by playing a game.

1-36 SECTION 2. Section 36.004(b-1), Health and Safety Code, is  
 1-37 amended to read as follows:

1-38 (b-1) The rules must allow an individual who attends a  
 1-39 public or private school to be screened:

1-40 (1) using photoscreening to detect vision disorders;  
 1-41 and

1-42 (2) using an electronic eye chart as a substitute for a  
 1-43 printed eye chart to assess visual acuity.

1-44 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
 1-45 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
 1-46 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement  
 1-47 the changes in law made by this Act.

1-48 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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