

1-1 By: Middleton S.B. No. 1068
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 21, 2023; March 3, 2023,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;
 1-4 April 6, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
 1-5 Nays 3; April 6, 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 the removal of restrictions on funding and payment of
 1-24 costs for certain full-time online educational programs;
 1-25 authorizing a fee.

1-26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-27 SECTION 1. Section 26.0031(c-1), Education Code, is amended
 1-28 to read as follows:

1-29 (c-1) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
 1-30 may decline to pay the cost for a student of more than three
 1-31 yearlong electronic courses, or the equivalent, during any school
 1-32 year. This subsection does not:

1-33 (1) limit the ability of the student to enroll in
 1-34 additional electronic courses at the student's cost; or

1-35 (2) apply to a student enrolled in a full-time online
 1-36 program [~~that was operating on January 1, 2013~~].

1-37 SECTION 2. Section 30A.153(a-1), Education Code, is amended
 1-38 to read as follows:

1-39 (a-1) For purposes of Subsection (a), a school district or
 1-40 open-enrollment charter school is limited to the funding described
 1-41 by that subsection for a student's enrollment in not more than three
 1-42 electronic courses during any school year, unless the student is
 1-43 enrolled in a full-time online program [~~that was operating on~~
 1-44 ~~January 1, 2013~~].

1-45 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 30A, Education Code, is
 1-46 amended by adding Section 30A.156 to read as follows:

1-47 Sec. 30A.156. PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT FEE. (a) If the agency
 1-48 determines that the cost of supporting the establishment of a
 1-49 full-time online program, including the cost of evaluating and
 1-50 approving electronic courses, will not be paid by the agency
 1-51 because funds for that purpose are not available, a school district
 1-52 or open-enrollment charter school that intends to operate a
 1-53 full-time online program may pay to the agency a one-time fee in an
 1-54 amount that is equal to the cost of establishing that program to
 1-55 ensure adequate support for that program is provided.

1-56 (b) The agency shall develop and publish a fee schedule for
 1-57 purposes of establishing a full-time online program.

1-58 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply to
 1-59 electronic courses taken through the state virtual school network
 1-60 beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

1-61 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

2-1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-4 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

2-5

* * * * *