

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 973  
By: Grusendorf  
Public Education  
Committee Report (Amended)

### **BACKGROUND**

Under current law, the commissioner of education is authorized to waive, at their discretion, a number of provisions concerning certain prohibitions, restrictions, and requirements for select school districts. However, open enrollment charter schools are automatically exempt from many rules and regulations.

### **PURPOSE**

House Bill 973 will automatically provide a school district or campus rated exemplary the same level of regulatory relief provided to open enrollment charter schools.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

House Bill 973 amends the Education Code to specify that a school district or campus rated exemplary is subject only to the prohibitions, restrictions, and requirements that apply to an open-enrollment charter school.

The bill repeals current provisions relating to excellence exemptions for a school campus or district (Section 39.112, Education Code).

These provisions apply beginning with the 2003-2004 school year.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

### **EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS**

Committee Amendment No.1 adds that an exemplary school is subject to requirements that apply to an open-enrollment charter school subject to the approval of the commissioner on the exemption from any particular rule. The amendment provides that a request for approval that is not denied by the commissioner within 30 days shall be deemed approved.