

By: Puente

H.B. No. 992

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to foster care payments for certain children.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.101, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a-1) The department shall continue to pay the cost of foster care for a child for whom the department provides care, including medical care, after the child becomes 18 years of age if the child is enrolled in an accredited secondary school in a program leading toward a high school diploma.

(d) The Board of Protective and Regulatory Services may adopt rules that establish criteria and guidelines for the payment of foster care, including medical care, for a child and for providing care for a child after the child becomes 18 years of age if the child is regularly attending [~~high school~~] an institution of higher education[~~7~~] or a vocational or technical program.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a child who is in foster care on or after the effective date of this Act.

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

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.