1-6   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7   AN ACT

1-8   relating to school attendance of a child placed in substitute care.
1-9   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-10   SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 264, Family Code, is
1-11 amended by adding Section 264.113 to read as follows:
1-12   Sec. 264.113. RETURNING CHILD TO SCHOOL. (a) If the
1-13 department takes possession of a child under Chapter 262 during the
1-14 school year, the department shall ensure that the child returns to
1-15 school not later than the third school day after the date an order
1-16 is rendered providing for possession of the child by the
1-17 department, unless the child has a physical or mental condition of a
1-18 temporary and remediable nature that makes the child's attendance
1-19 infeasible.
1-20   (b) If a child has a physical or mental condition of a
1-21 temporary and remediable nature that makes the child's attendance
1-22 in school infeasible, the department shall notify the school in
1-23 writing that the child is unable to attend school. If the child's
1-24 physical or mental condition improves so that the child's
1-25 attendance in school is feasible, the department shall ensure that
1-26 the child immediately returns to school.
1-27   SECTION 2. Section 25.002, Education Code, is amended by
1-28 adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:
1-29   (g) A school district shall accept a child for enrollment in
1-30 a public school without the documentation required by Subsection
1-31 (a) if the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services has
1-32 taken possession of the child under Chapter 262, Family Code. The
1-33 Department of Protective and Regulatory Services shall ensure that
1-34 the documentation required by Subsection (a) is furnished to the
1-35 school district not later than the 30th day after the date the child
1-36 is enrolled in the school.
1-37   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

1-38   * * * * *

1