

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 1956

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for public school prekindergarten classes.

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

SECTION 1. Section 29.153(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A child is eligible for enrollment in a prekindergarten class under this section if the child is at least three years of age and ~~is~~:

(1) is unable to speak and comprehend the English language;

(2) has a family income that is not more than 200 percent of the federal poverty level according to the poverty index prepared by the federal Office of Management and Budget ~~[educationally-disadvantaged]~~; or

(3) is homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11302, regardless of the residence of the child, of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control of the child.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2003-2004 school year.

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.