

By: Eissler

H.B. No. 2822

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2822:

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C.S.H.B. No. 2822

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to services for public school students with speech
3 impairments and to the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language
4 Pathology and Audiology.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 29.018 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 29.018. SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH SPEECH IMPAIRMENTS.

9 (a) The multidisciplinary team that collects or reviews data for
10 determining the eligibility of a student to participate in a school
11 district's special education program based on the student's speech
12 impairment must include:

13 (1) a person who holds a certificate in speech and
14 hearing therapy;

15 (2) a person who holds a certificate in
16 speech-language therapy;

17 (3) a person who holds a license in speech-language
18 pathology; or

19 (4) a person who holds a limited license to practice in
20 the public schools as a fully licensed speech-language pathologist.

21 (b) If authorized by the board of trustees of a school
22 district, a person who holds a limited license as described by
23 Subsection (a)(4) may provide the speech and language services
24 determined necessary by the multidisciplinary team.

1 SECTION 2. Section 401.102, Occupations Code, is amended by
2 adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

3 (d-1) At least three of the board members must be current
4 employees of a school district in this state.

5 SECTION 3. Sections 401.314(a) and (e), Occupations Code,
6 are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) The board shall waive the licensing requirements under
8 this chapter and issue a limited license to practice in the public
9 schools as a fully licensed speech-language pathologist to an
10 applicant who:

11 (1) was eligible for a waiver of licensing
12 requirements under Section 13(a), Chapter 381, Acts of the 68th
13 Legislature, Regular Session, 1983, as amended by Chapter 448, Acts
14 of the 69th Legislature, Regular Session, 1985, or is or is
15 authorized to be employed by a school district as a speech-language
16 therapist or as a licensed assistant in speech-language pathology;

17 (2) [~~for the two years preceding January 1, 1996, was~~
18 ~~employed by a school district as a speech-language therapist,~~

19 [~~3~~] submits with the person's application a written
20 statement by the superintendent of the school district employing
21 the person, certifying that the district has not been able to employ
22 as a speech-language pathologist a person who meets the licensing
23 requirements imposed under this chapter;

24 (3) [~~4~~] holds a baccalaureate degree in
25 communication disorders (speech-language) from an accredited
26 institution of higher education [~~and is certified by the Texas~~
27 ~~Education Agency in speech and hearing therapy]~~ or, in the judgment

1 of the board, satisfies equivalent requirements; and

2 (4) on or before the third anniversary of the date the
3 license is granted, [~~5~~] successfully completes the examination
4 required under Section 401.305.

5 (e) An applicant for a limited license must provide [~~have~~]
6 [~~(1) applied not later than September 1, 1996, and~~
7 [~~(2) provided~~] proof satisfactory to the board that the
8 person satisfies the requirements of this section.

9 SECTION 4. Sections 401.314(b), (c), (d), and (f),
10 Occupations Code, are repealed.

11 SECTION 5. The change in law made by Section 401.102(d-1),
12 Occupations Code, as added by this Act, in the qualifications that
13 apply to members of the State Board of Examiners for
14 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology does not affect the
15 entitlement of a member serving on the board immediately before
16 September 1, 2003, to continue to serve and function as a member of
17 the board for the remainder of the member's term. That change in
18 law applies only to a member appointed on or after September 1,
19 2003.

20 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.