

By: Pitts

H.B. No. 3243

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the release of questions and answer keys for and to  
3 paying the costs of assessment instruments administered by the  
4 state to public school students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39.023(e), Education Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (e) Under rules adopted by the State Board of Education,  
9 every other year, the agency shall release the questions and answer  
10 keys to each assessment instrument administered under Subsection  
11 (a), (b), (c), (d), or (l) after the last time the instrument is  
12 administered for that ~~a~~ school year. To ensure a valid bank of  
13 questions for use each year, the agency is not required to release a  
14 question that is being field-tested and was not used to compute the  
15 student's score on the instrument. The agency shall also release,  
16 under board rule, each question that is no longer being  
17 field-tested and that was not used to compute a student's score.

18 SECTION 2. Section 39.031(a), Education Code, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (a) The cost of preparing, administering, or grading the  
21 assessment instruments shall be paid from foundation school fund  
22 allotments other than ~~the~~ funds allotted under Section 42.152,  
23 and each district shall bear the cost in the same manner described  
24 for a reduction in allotments under Section 42.253. ~~[If a district~~

1 ~~does not receive an allotment under Section 42.152, the~~  
2 ~~commissioner shall subtract the cost from the district's other~~  
3 ~~foundation school fund allotments.]~~

4 SECTION 3. Except as provided by Section 39.023(k),  
5 Education Code, in accordance with Section 39.023(e), Education  
6 Code, as amended by this Act, the Texas Education Agency shall  
7 release questions and answer keys for assessment instruments  
8 administered under Section 39.023, Education Code, in the 2002-2003  
9 school year and in every other school year after that.

10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.