

Amend **CSHB 2** on page 72, between lines 5 and 6, by adding the following new SECTION, appropriately numbered, and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION 2B.____. Chapter 13, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. STUDY OF CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER METHODS
FOR IMPROVING EFFICIENCY

Sec. 13.301. BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO STUDY EFFICIENCY.

(a) A blue ribbon commission is established to study methods designed to improve efficiency in public education. The commission shall concentrate on studying consolidation of school districts to determine any costs or savings and any effect on the quality of public education in this state that would result from consolidation. The commission shall also study other methods designed to improve efficiency to determine whether those methods would result in quantifiable cost savings in public education while maintaining or improving the quality of public education.

(b) The commission is composed of seven members as follows:
(1) two members appointed by the governor;
(2) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor;
(3) two members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and
(4) the commissioner of education.

(c) The governor shall appoint as presiding officer of the commission a member of the commission, other than the commissioner of education.

(d) The agency shall serve as the commission's staff. The comptroller, Legislative Budget Board, and school districts shall cooperate with the commission in conducting the study.

(e) Not later than December 31, 2006, the commission shall submit to the legislature a report based on the commission's study under this section. The report must include:

(1) a discussion of consolidation of school districts and other methods designed to improve efficiency that the commission studied;

(2) any recommendations the commission has concerning methods that the commission studied and determined would result in quantifiable cost savings in public education while maintaining or improving the quality of public education; and

(3) the amount of cost savings determined to be associated with a method recommended under Subdivision (2).

Sec. 13.302. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires January 15, 2007.