

By: Delisi

H.B. No. 25

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to transition assistance within the public school system for school-age dependents of military personnel.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 25, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 25.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 25.006. TRANSITION ASSISTANCE FOR MILITARY DEPENDENTS. (a) The legislature finds that:

(1) school-age dependents of military personnel are faced with numerous transitions during their formative years; and

(2) military dependents who move from one school to another during the high school years are faced with special challenges to learning and future achievement.

(b) In recognition of the challenges faced by military dependents and the importance of military families to our community and economy, the agency shall assist the transition of military students from one school to another by:

(1) improving the timely transfer of student records;

(2) developing systems to ease student transition during the first two weeks of enrollment at a new school;

(3) promoting practices that foster student access to extracurricular programs;

(4) establishing procedures to lessen the adverse impact of student moves to a new school after the end of the

1 student's junior year of high school;

2 (5) encouraging or maintaining partnerships between
3 military bases and affected school districts;

4 (6) providing services for military students in
5 transition when applying for admission to postsecondary study and
6 when seeking sources of funding for postsecondary study; and

7 (7) providing other assistance as identified by the
8 agency, affected school districts, and military personnel.

9 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2006, the Texas
10 Education Agency shall report the results of its efforts to
11 implement Section 25.006, Education Code, as added by this Act, to
12 the presiding officers of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs
13 and Military Installations and the House of Representatives
14 Committee on Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
20 legislative session.