

By: Branch

H.B. No. 60

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the first day of instruction of a school year for public school students.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.0811, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 25.0811. FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION. (a) A school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the week in which August 28 [~~21~~] falls. For purposes of this subsection, Sunday is considered the first day of the week.

(b) If a school district intends to apply under Section 7.056 for a waiver of the prohibition prescribed by Subsection (a), the district must:

(1) at least 60 days before the date the district submits the application for the waiver, publish notice in a newspaper having general circulation in the district:

(A) stating that the district intends to apply for a waiver of the prohibition concerning the date of the first day of instruction for students; [~~and~~]

(B) stating the district's reasons for requesting the waiver; and

(C) specifying the date on which the district intends to begin instruction for students; and

(2) hold a public hearing concerning the date of the

1 first day of instruction for students.

2 (c) The application for a waiver of the prohibition
3 prescribed by Subsection (a) must include:

4 (1) a statement of the district's reasons for
5 requesting the waiver; and

6 (2) a summary of the opinions expressed at the public
7 hearing held under Subsection (b)(2), including any consensus of
8 opinion expressed concerning the date of the first day of
9 instruction for students.

10 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2005-2006
11 school year.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.