

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 253

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the adoption of public school textbooks.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31.023, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 31.023. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK ADOPTION AND TEXTBOOK LISTS.

(a) For each subject and grade level, the State Board of Education shall adopt textbooks that contain all elements of the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and grade level, as determined by the State Board of Education under Section 28.002, in the student versions of the textbooks, as well as in the teacher versions of the textbooks.

(b) The State Board of Education shall adopt two lists of textbooks as provided by this section.

(c) The conforming list includes each textbook submitted for the subject and grade level that:

(1) meets applicable physical specifications adopted by the State Board of Education;

(2) [and] contains material covering all elements [each element] of the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and grade level in the student version of the textbook, as well as in the teacher version of the textbook; [as determined by the State Board of Education under Section 28.002] and

(3) is adopted under Section 31.024.

1 (d) The nonconforming list includes each textbook submitted
2 for the subject and grade level that:

3 (1) meets applicable physical specifications adopted
4 by the State Board of Education;

5 (2) contains material covering at least half, but not
6 all, of the elements of the essential knowledge and skills of the
7 subject and grade level in the student version of the textbook, as
8 well as in the teacher version of the textbook; and

9 (3) is adopted under Section 31.024.

10 (e) [~~(b)~~] Each textbook on a conforming or nonconforming
11 list must be free from factual errors.

12 SECTION 2. Section 31.023, Education Code, as amended by
13 this Act, applies only to a textbook adopted by the State Board of
14 Education on or after the effective date of this Act. A textbook
15 adopted by the State Board of Education before the effective date of
16 this Act is governed by the law in effect at the time of adoption,
17 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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