

By: Hochberg

H.B. No. 349

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a credits program for the purchase of textbooks and
3 related materials by a school district or open-enrollment charter
4 school.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 31.1011, Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) A [~~The commissioner shall implement a program to study~~
9 ~~the use of credits for textbooks. The program shall be designed to~~
10 ~~allow a participating~~] school district or open-enrollment charter
11 school shall [~~to~~] receive credit for textbooks purchased at a cost
12 below the cost limit established under Section 31.025(a).

13 (b) The credit is an amount equal to the difference between
14 the price paid for a textbook and the cost limit established under
15 Section 31.025(a) for that textbook multiplied by the number of
16 copies of that textbook the [~~participating~~] school district or
17 open-enrollment charter school purchases.

18 (c) Fifty percent of the total textbook credit of a
19 [~~participating~~] school district or open-enrollment charter school
20 shall be credited to the state textbook fund, and 50 percent of the
21 credit shall be credited to the [~~participating~~] textbooks or
22 electronic textbooks or technological equipment for instructional
23 use in the classroom as defined in Section 31.002(4)(a) [~~on the~~
24 ~~conforming or nonconforming list~~].

1 (d) The commissioner shall prepare a report relating to the
2 use of the textbook credit system and deliver the report to the 81st
3 ~~[79th]~~ Legislature. This subsection expires September 1, 2009.

4 ~~[(c) This section expires September 1, 2005.]~~

5 SECTION 2. This act applies beginning with the 2005-2006
6 school year.

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