

By: Hochberg

H.B. No. 553

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to exemptions from the requirement for a school district to operate a prekindergarten program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 29.153(d) of the Education Code is amended by adding subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) Notwithstanding Subsection (d), the commissioner shall not exempt a school district from the application of this section if a private entity in the district:

(1) is willing and able to contract with the district to operate a prekindergarten program that complies with the requirements in this code and agency rule regarding prekindergarten programs operated by a school district;

(2) meets any additional standards the school district has in place for the operation of its own prekindergarten program; and

(3) notifies the school district and the commissioner in writing no later than June 1 of the entity's ability and commitment to operate a prekindergarten program in the next school year.

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

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.