

By: Leibowitz

H.B. No. 890

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a statewide student tracking system.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 7, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 7.008 to read as follows:

Sec. 7.008. STATEWIDE STUDENT TRACKING SYSTEM. (a) The commissioner by rule shall adopt and implement a statewide student tracking system as provided by this section.

(b) The student tracking system must:

(1) produce reports for agency officials and policymakers and update information on each student's:

(A) current enrollment and enrollment history;

(B) attendance;

(C) achievement, including course or grade completion, assessment instrument results, and the type of high school program completed;

(D) immunization history;

(E) participation in a public assistance program under Chapter 31, 32, or 33, Human Resources Code;

(F) status as a student of limited English proficiency;

(G) if applicable, specific reason for leaving a school or school district, such as transferring, graduating, or dropping out of school; and

1 (H) other demographic information, as determined
2 by the commissioner; and

3 (2) to facilitate the electronic transfer of student
4 records and the evaluation and improvement of educational programs
5 in the state, permit an authorized state or school district
6 official to electronically retrieve information about a particular
7 student as necessary.

8 (c) Each school district shall participate in the student
9 tracking system, as determined by the commissioner.

10 (d) The commissioner may solicit and accept grant funds to
11 maintain the student tracking system and to make the system
12 available to school districts.

13 (e) Information and records contained in the student
14 tracking system established under this section are confidential and
15 exempt from disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, and may
16 be disclosed only as necessary for the purposes of this section.

17 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2006-2007
18 school year.

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