

By: Pena

H.B. No. 3377

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a kindergarten-plus program for certain children.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.161 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.161. KINDERGARTEN-PLUS PROGRAM. (a) In addition to any other funding to which a school district is entitled, from funds appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner shall distribute to each school district an amount of money equal to the product of \$2,000 multiplied by the number of children in average daily attendance, as determined under Section 42.005, in the district's kindergarten-plus program. A district may use funds received under this subsection only for the purpose of the district's kindergarten-plus program.

(b) A child is eligible to participate in a school district's kindergarten-plus program if:

(1) the child is entitled to attend school in the district under Section 25.001;

(2) the child:

(A) is enrolled or is planning to enroll in a district kindergarten class for the next school year; or

(B) has just completed kindergarten;

(3) the child is educationally disadvantaged; and

(4) the child's parent or guardian has applied for the

1 child to participate in the kindergarten-plus program in the time
2 and manner required by the district and the district has accepted
3 the child's application.

4 (c) A school district kindergarten-plus program must, at a
5 minimum, consist of:

6 (1) six weeks of additional instruction for an
7 eligible child during the summer before the child will begin
8 kindergarten; and

9 (2) six weeks of additional instruction for an
10 eligible child during the summer after the child completes
11 kindergarten.

12 (d) In addition to compensation from funds provided under
13 this section, a teacher who teaches for a kindergarten-plus program
14 is entitled to two additional professional development days each
15 school year.

16 (e) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
17 administer this section. The rules must provide for standards and a
18 curriculum for the kindergarten-plus program.

19 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
20 of this Act, the commissioner shall adopt rules relating to the
21 kindergarten-plus program provided for by Section 29.161,
22 Education Code, as added by this Act.

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