

By: Isett

H.B. No. 3468

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an intensive English language instruction pilot program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.094, to read as follows:

Sec. 29.094. INTENSIVE READING AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "program" means the intensive reading and English language instruction pilot program.

(b) The commissioner by rule shall establish an intensive reading and English language instruction pilot program in which campuses provide intensive reading and English language instruction to participating students.

(c) A campus may apply to the commissioner to participate in the program. The commissioner may select only campuses that have failed to improve student performance in reading and English language proficiency as determined by the commissioner.

(d) The commissioner shall establish a program for participating campuses to use in providing intensive instruction to participating students. The program must include neuroscience based, scientifically validated methods, interventions, or instructional tools that have been proven to accelerate learning, cognitive ability, and English language proficiency. A

1 participating campus must use the program developed by the
2 commissioner in providing intensive instruction to participating
3 students.

4 (e) The principal of a participating campus shall select
5 students to participate in the program. A participating campus
6 shall assess each selected student before the student enters and
7 after the student transfers out of the program to measure the
8 student's progress in reading and English language proficiency.

9 (f) To the extent permissible under federal law and
10 notwithstanding any other state law, the commissioner may provide
11 funding for the program using not more than \$6 million of federal
12 and state funding designated for purposes of Section 28.0211 and
13 Subchapter B. The commissioner may as necessary proportionately
14 reduce the amount of money each school district in the state
15 receives for purposes of Section 28.0211 and Subchapter B,
16 including the amount each school district receives as a
17 transitional program allotment under Section 42.153.

18 (g) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
19 implement this section, including rules relating to the criteria a
20 principal must use in selecting students to participate in the
21 program.

22 (h) The commissioner shall make the program available to
23 participating campuses during the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school
24 years. This section expires July 1, 2007.

25 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.