

By: Eissler

H.B. No. 409

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to requiring certain inmates to receive a high school
3 equivalency certificate before their release or as a condition of
4 release on parole or to mandatory supervision.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 508.183, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 508.183. EDUCATIONAL SKILL LEVEL. (a) A parole panel
9 shall require as a condition of release on parole or release to
10 mandatory supervision that an inmate demonstrate to the parole
11 panel whether the inmate:

12 (1) has an educational skill level that is equal to or
13 greater than the average skill level of students who have completed
14 the sixth grade in a public school in this state, if the inmate is
15 younger than 18 years of age; or

16 (2) has received a high school equivalency
17 certificate, if the inmate is 18 years of age or older.

18 (b) If the parole panel determines that the inmate has not
19 attained the [that] skill level required by Subsection (a)(1) or
20 received a high school equivalency certificate, as required by
21 Subsection (a)(2), the parole panel shall require as a condition of
22 parole or mandatory supervision that the inmate as a releasee
23 attain that level of educational skill or receive a high school
24 equivalency certificate, as applicable at the time of release,

1 unless the parole panel determines that the inmate lacks the
2 intellectual capacity or the learning ability to ever achieve that
3 level of skill or receive that certificate.

4 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
5 to a person who is released on parole or to mandatory supervision on
6 or after the effective date of this Act. A person released on
7 parole or to mandatory supervision before the effective date of
8 this Act is covered by the law in effect on the date the person was
9 released, and the former law is continued in effect for that
10 purpose.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.