

By: Turner

H.B. No. 1393

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the education of children attending charter schools that the commissioner of education proposes to close.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 12.1165 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.1165. TRANSITION SERVICES FOR STUDENTS ON REVOCATION, DENIAL, OR SURRENDER OF CHARTER. (a) If the commissioner revokes or denies the renewal of a charter of an open-enrollment charter school, or if an open-enrollment charter school surrenders its charter, the commissioner must ensure that the students enrolled at the school remain in an educational setting by:

(1) arranging for the placement of each student in another public school;

(2) ensuring that each student with special needs, including a student receiving special education services under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, or a student who is pregnant or a parent, continues to receive the appropriate services; and

(3) arranging for transportation services to the new school for each student.

(b) The commissioner shall provide written notice to the students and the parents and guardians of the students in the school of:

1           (1) the revocation, denial of renewal, or surrender of  
2 the school's charter; and

3           (2) the commissioner's duty to assist the students in  
4 meeting their educational needs.

5           (c) If the local juvenile probation department or the Texas  
6 Youth Commission has a role in supervising a student enrolled at the  
7 school, the commissioner shall notify the applicable entity of the  
8 placement of the student in another school under this section.

9           (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this  
10 section. The rules must require the commissioner to maintain a  
11 record of where students enrolled at the school are placed after the  
12 school is ordered closed.

13           SECTION 2. The commissioner of education shall adopt rules  
14 as required by Section 12.1165, Education Code, as added by this  
15 Act, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act.

16           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.