

By: Howard of Fort Bend

H.B. No. 1844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the administration of certain tests to home-schooled
3 students by school districts.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 29.916 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 29.916. HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AND
8 ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTING. (a) In this section:

9 (1) "Home-schooled student" means a student who
10 predominantly receives instruction in a general elementary or
11 secondary education program that is provided by the parent, or a
12 person standing in parental authority, in or through the child's
13 home.

14 (2) "PSAT/NMSQT" means the Preliminary SAT/National
15 Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test sponsored by the College Board
16 and Educational Testing Service and the National Merit Scholarship
17 Corporation.

18 (b) A school district shall permit a home-schooled student
19 entitled under Section 25.001 to attend public school in the
20 district to participate in an administration of the PSAT/NMSQT or a
21 college advanced placement test offered by the district.

22 (c) A school district shall post on an Internet website
23 maintained by the district the date the PSAT/NMSQT will be
24 administered and the date any college advanced placement tests will

1 be administered. The notice required under this subsection must
2 state that the PSAT/NMSQT or the advanced placement test is
3 available for home-schooled students eligible to attend school in
4 the district and describe the procedures for a home-schooled
5 student to register for the test. A school district that does not
6 maintain an Internet website must publish the information required
7 by this subsection in a newspaper in the district. If a newspaper is
8 not published in the school district, the district shall provide
9 for the publication of notice in at least one newspaper in the
10 county in which the district's central administrative office is
11 located. The information required under this subsection must be
12 posted or published not later than the 30th day before the date of
13 the test.

14 (d) The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to
15 implement this section.

16 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008
17 school year.

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