

1-1 By: Cook of Navarro, Strama H.B. No. 2455
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Seliger)
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2007;
1-4 May 7, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-5 Education; May 10, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-6 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 10, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the absence of a student from public school for a
1-10 required court appearance.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by
1-13 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
1-14 follows:

1-15 (b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending
1-16 school for:

1-17 (1) the following purposes, including travel for those
1-18 purposes:

1-19 (A) [purpose of] observing religious holy days;
1-20 or

1-21 (B) attending a required court appearance; or
1-22 (2) a [, including traveling for that purpose. A

1-23 school district shall excuse a student for] temporary absence
1-24 resulting from health care professionals if that student commences
1-25 classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment.

1-26 (c) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b)
1-27 [this subsection] may not be penalized for that absence and shall be
1-28 counted as if the student attended school for purposes of
1-29 calculating the average daily attendance of students in the school
1-30 district. A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b)
1-31 [this subsection] shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up
1-32 school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily
1-33 completes the school work, the day of absence shall be counted as a
1-34 day of compulsory attendance.

1-35 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008
1-36 school year.

1-37 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-38 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-39 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-40 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-41 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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