

AN ACT

relating to the administration of international assessment instruments to certain public school students.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 39, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 39.037 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.037. INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT PROGRAM.

(a) In this section, "program" means the international assessment instrument program.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a program under which a participating school district administers international assessment instruments to students in the district.

(c) A school district may apply to the commissioner to participate in the program. The commissioner shall select for participation school districts from both rural and urban areas of the state. If necessary, the commissioner may require a school district to participate in the program.

(d) A participating school district shall administer international assessment instruments as required by the commissioner.

(e) In administering the program, the commissioner shall:

(1) compare the performance on the international assessment instruments of students in this state with students of the same grade level in other countries;

1 (2) compare the international assessment instruments
2 with state assessment instruments and state educational goals; and

3 (3) provide professional development for educators in
4 the interpretation and use of results of the international
5 assessment instruments.

6 (f) Each biennium the commissioner may use funds
7 appropriated for the Foundation School Program to provide funding
8 for the program in an amount not to exceed \$2 million.

9 (g) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the
10 commissioner shall prepare and deliver a report describing the
11 results of student performance on the international assessment
12 instruments to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker
13 of the house of representatives, each member of the legislature,
14 and each school district.

15 (h) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to
16 administer this section.

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

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

H.B. No. 3259

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3259 was passed by the House on May 7, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3259 was passed by the Senate on May 18, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor