By: King of Taylor
Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3487:
By: Zedler C.S.H.B. No. 3487

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT
relating to staff development requirements concerning the instruction of students with disabilities in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
SECTION 1. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (g), (h), and (i) to read as follows:
(g) This subsection applies only to a teacher who provides instruction to a student for whom an individualized education program has been developed under Section 29.005. Except as provided by Subsection (i), a teacher subject to this subsection, at least every three years, must complete a minimum number of hours of staff development, as determined by commissioner rule, relating to the instruction of students with disabilities. The staff development training must include information relating to:
(1) temperament and requirements of students with disabilities;
(2) methods for providing individualized instruction to and assessing students with disabilities; and
(3) behavioral management techniques.
(h) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to administer this section and create as a local option for school districts a three-year implementation schedule. Except as provided by Subsection (i), at least one-third of the teachers subject to Subsection (g) in the district must participate each year during
the three-year implementation period or until all teachers subject to Subsection (g) have fulfilled the initial staff development requirement under Subsection (g). The rules adopted under this subsection must emphasize the need to provide adequate staff development training to enable teachers to implement individualized education programs for students with disabilities in an effective manner.
(i) A school district that employs a teacher subject to Subsection (g) may allow the teacher to satisfy the requirements of that subsection if the teacher participates in district-approved professional development activities or training, other than staff development training provided by the district, that satisfies the requirements of Subsection (g).

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2008-2009 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2008.

