

By: Janek

S.B. No. 1517

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to an exemption for students enrolled in certain advanced courses from the requirement that a student be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for receiving an unsatisfactory grade.

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

SECTION 1. Section 33.081, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(c) A student who is enrolled in a school district in this state or who participates in a University Interscholastic League competition shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district or the University Interscholastic League after a grade evaluation period in which the student received a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class other than a course described by Subsection (d-1) [~~an identified honors or advanced class~~]. A suspension continues for at least three school weeks and is not removed during the school year until the conditions of Subsection (d) are met. A suspension does not last beyond the end of a school year. For purposes of this subsection, "grade evaluation period" means:

- (1) the six-week grade reporting period; or
- (2) the first six weeks of a semester and each grade

1 reporting period thereafter, in the case of a district with a grade
2 reporting period longer than six weeks.

3 (d) Until the suspension is removed under this subsection or
4 the school year ends, a school district shall review the grades of a
5 student suspended under Subsection (c) at the end of each
6 three-week period following the date on which the suspension began.
7 At the time of a review, the suspension is removed if the student's
8 grade in each class, other than a course described by Subsection
9 (d-1) [an identified honors or advanced class], is equal to or
10 greater than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100. The principal
11 and each of the student's teachers shall make the determination
12 concerning the student's grades.

13 (d-1) Subsections (c) and (d) do not apply to an identified
14 honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or dual
15 credit course in the subject area of English language arts,
16 mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or a language
17 other than English. The agency shall review on a biennial basis
18 courses described by this subsection to determine if other courses
19 should be excluded from the requirement that a student be suspended
20 from participation in an extracurricular activity under Subsection
21 (c). Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the agency
22 shall report the findings under this subsection to the legislature.

23 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008
24 school year.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

S.B. No. 1517

- 1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
- 2 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend S.B. 1517 by striking the sentence beginning on page 2,
line 13 and substituting the following:

"Subsections (c) and (d) do not apply to an advanced
placement or international baccalaureate course, or to an honors or
dual credit course in the subject areas of English language arts,
mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or a language
other than English."

Hochberg