

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 674

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to creating a county task force to study collaborative
3 methods for public education cost savings in certain counties.

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

5 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that promoting cost
6 savings through collaborative agreements between public school
7 districts and the local governments in which the districts are
8 located serves an important purpose in promoting the provision of
9 quality educational services.

10 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a county with a
11 population of more than one million and in which more than 80
12 percent of the population resides in a single municipality.

13 SECTION 3. (a) The County Task Force on Public Education
14 Efficiencies is composed of seven members appointed as follows:

15 (1) three members appointed by the county judge of the
16 county;

17 (2) three members appointed by the presiding officer
18 of the governing body of the largest municipality in the county; and

19 (3) one member appointed jointly by the county judge
20 of the county and the presiding officer of the governing body of the
21 largest municipality in the county.

22 (b) The members of the County Task Force on Public Education
23 Efficiencies appointed under Subsection (a) of this section shall
24 elect a presiding officer of the task force.

1 (c) Appointments to the County Task Force on Public
2 Education Efficiencies shall be made without regard to race, color,
3 disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin of the
4 appointees.

5 SECTION 4. The County Task Force on Public Education
6 Efficiencies shall:

7 (1) research and investigate the feasibility of:

8 (A) using cooperative agreements between public
9 school districts and municipalities or counties in which a district
10 is located to achieve cost savings on public school functions
11 outside of the classroom; and

12 (B) reallocating the cost savings identified
13 under Paragraph (A) of this subdivision to classroom functions; and

14 (2) make recommendations regarding:

15 (A) the feasibility of general use of cooperative
16 agreements as described by Subdivision (1)(A) of this section; and

17 (B) methods for reallocating cost savings as
18 described by Subdivision (1)(B) of this section.

19 SECTION 5. Not later than January 1, 2011, the County Task
20 Force on Public Education Efficiencies shall submit its findings
21 and recommendations to each member of the state legislature who
22 represents the county and to the standing committees of the senate
23 and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over
24 public education.

25 SECTION 6. The County Task Force on Public Education
26 Efficiencies is abolished and this Act expires on September 1,
27 2011.

1 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.