

By: Rose

H.B. No. 705

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing certain documents and training to children in the conservatorship of the state.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.014, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 264.014. PROVISION OF COPIES OF CERTAIN RECORDS.

(a) If, at the time a child is discharged from foster care, the child is at least 18 years of age or has had the disabilities of minority removed, the department shall provide to the child, not later than the 30th day before [~~after~~] the date the child is discharged from foster care, a copy of:

- (1) the child's birth certificate;
- (2) the child's immunization records; and
- (3) the information contained in the child's health passport.

(b) The department shall ensure that a child who is being discharged from foster care obtains, not later than the 30th day before the date the child is discharged from foster care:

- (1) a personal identification certificate under Chapter 521, Transportation Code;
- (2) a social security card or a replacement social security card, if appropriate; and
- (3) proof of enrollment in Medicaid, if appropriate.

1           SECTION 2. (a) The Department of Family and Protective  
2 Services, in cooperation with the Texas Education Agency and the  
3 Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas, shall develop a  
4 plan to ensure that each child in conservatorship of the department  
5 is provided the opportunity to complete a driver's education course  
6 and to obtain a driver's license before the child leaves  
7 conservatorship.

8           (b) Not later than December 1, 2010, the Department of  
9 Family and Protective Services shall report to the legislature the  
10 results of the plan under Subsection (a) of this section. The  
11 report must include cost estimates for providing the driver's  
12 education and methods for obtaining affordable liability insurance  
13 for foster children.

14           SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act to Section  
15 264.014, Family Code, apply to any child in the conservatorship of  
16 the state on or after the effective date of this Act.

17           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.