

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 920

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the receipt of an exemption or waiver for a school district or campus that is academically unacceptable.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 7.056(a), (e), and (f), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (e) or (f), a school campus or district may apply to the commissioner for a waiver of a requirement, restriction, or prohibition imposed by this code or rule of the board or commissioner.

(e) A [~~Except as provided by Subsection (f), a~~] school campus or district may not receive an exemption or waiver under this section from:

(1) a prohibition on conduct that constitutes a criminal offense;

(2) a requirement imposed by federal law or rule, including a requirement for special education or bilingual education programs; or

(3) a requirement, restriction, or prohibition relating to:

(A) essential knowledge or skills under Section 28.002 or minimum graduation requirements under Section 28.025;

(B) public school accountability as provided by Subchapters B, C, D, and G, Chapter 39;

1 (C) extracurricular activities under Section  
2 33.081 or participation in a University Interscholastic League  
3 area, regional, or state competition under Section 33.0812;

4 (D) health and safety under Chapter 38;

5 (E) purchasing under Subchapter B, Chapter 44;

6 (F) elementary school class size limits, except  
7 as provided by Section 25.112;

8 (G) removal of a disruptive student from the  
9 classroom under Subchapter A, Chapter 37;

10 (H) at-risk programs under Subchapter C, Chapter  
11 29;

12 (I) prekindergarten programs under Subchapter E,  
13 Chapter 29;

14 (J) educator rights and benefits under  
15 Subchapters A, C, D, E, F, G, and I, Chapter 21, or under Subchapter  
16 A, Chapter 22;

17 (K) special education programs under Subchapter  
18 A, Chapter 29;

19 (L) bilingual education programs under  
20 Subchapter B, Chapter 29; or

21 (M) the requirements for the first day of  
22 instruction under Section 25.0811.

23 (f) A school district or campus that is academically  
24 unacceptable as provided by Section 39.072 or 39.132 [~~is required~~  
25 ~~to develop and implement a student achievement improvement plan~~  
26 ~~under Section 39.131 or 39.132~~] may not receive an exemption or  
27 waiver under this section from any law or rule [~~other than:~~

1           ~~[(1) a prohibition on conduct that constitutes a~~  
2 ~~criminal offense;~~

3           ~~[(2) a requirement imposed by federal law or rule;~~

4           ~~[(3) a requirement, restriction, or prohibition~~  
5 ~~imposed by state law or rule relating to:~~

6                   ~~[(A) public school accountability as provided by~~  
7 ~~Subchapters B, C, D, and G, Chapter 39; or~~

8                   ~~[(B) educator rights and benefits under~~  
9 ~~Subchapters A, C, D, E, F, G, and I, Chapter 21, or under Subchapter~~  
10 ~~A, Chapter 22; or~~

11           ~~[(4) textbook selection under Chapter 31].~~

12           SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
13 school year.

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