

By: Eissler

H.B. No. 2264

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to establishment of an after-school grant program for
3 certain students in public middle or junior high schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 29.091 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 29.091. MIDDLE AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM
8 FOR AFTER-SCHOOL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES. (a) From funds
9 appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner shall establish a
10 program under which grants are awarded to school districts to
11 implement after-school learning opportunities for students in
12 middle and junior high schools who are at risk of dropping out of
13 school, as described by Section 29.081(d).

14 (b) Activities funded with a grant under this section must
15 be designed to:

16 (1) promote the ability of students to succeed in
17 middle or junior high school;

18 (2) prepare students for the transition to high school
19 so that the students enter high school with the ability to succeed,
20 graduate, and successfully pursue postsecondary options;

21 (3) provide students with the opportunity to
22 investigate diverse career options; and

23 (4) provide students and their parents with
24 information regarding opportunities for higher education.

1 (c) The commissioner shall establish application criteria
2 for receiving a grant under this section. The criteria must
3 require a school district that applies for a grant to collaborate
4 with local businesses and nonprofit organizations in providing
5 activities designed to achieve the goals described by Subsection
6 (b).

7 (d) The commissioner may:

8 (1) accept gifts, grants, or donations from a private
9 foundation to implement a grant program under this section; and

10 (2) coordinate gifts, grants, or donations with other
11 available funding to implement a grant program under this section.

12 (e) The commissioner shall establish procedures for
13 evaluating the effectiveness of activities funded with a grant
14 awarded under this section. The procedures must include
15 consideration of:

16 (1) school attendance rates;

17 (2) student performance in academic subjects; and

18 (3) subsequent high school completion rates.

19 (f) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
20 administer the grant program under this section.

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