

By: Chisum

H.B. No. 2871

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to grants to school district and countywide public school
3 transportation systems to be used to pay costs in purchasing school
4 buses capable of using propane as fuel.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 34, Education Code, is amended by adding
7 Section 34.0051 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 34.0051. GRANT PROGRAM FOR PURCHASE OF BUSES USING
9 PROPANE FUEL. (a) The commissioner by rule shall establish a
10 program under which the commissioner may award to school districts
11 and to countywide public school transportation systems grants to be
12 used to pay costs in purchasing school buses capable of using
13 propane as fuel.

14 (b) The amount of a grant awarded under this section may not
15 exceed \$10,000.

16 (c) The commissioner may adopt any rule necessary to
17 administer this section and by rule shall:

18 (1) adopt an application procedure and form that a
19 school district or countywide transportation system must use in
20 applying for a grant under this section;

21 (2) adopt eligibility criteria for awarding a grant;

22 (3) adopt criteria for selecting among school
23 districts or countywide transportation systems if there are more
24 eligible districts or systems that apply for a grant than money

1 available to award a grant to each eligible district or system;

2 (4) establish the amount of a grant or adopt criteria
3 for determining grant amounts; and

4 (5) establish procedures for ensuring that a grant
5 award is used by a district or countywide transportation system
6 only in purchasing a school bus capable of using propane as fuel.

7 (d) Subsection (c)(5) includes the purchase of a school bus
8 in the manner provided by Section 34.005 or 45.001(a)(1)(D).

9 (e) A grant awarded under this section is in addition to a
10 transportation allotment under Section 42.155.

11 (f) A grant awarded under this section shall be paid for
12 with funds appropriated to the agency that may be used for that
13 purpose.

14 SECTION 2. 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.