

By: Shapiro

S.B. No. 987

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the age at which transition planning begins for a public school student receiving special education services.

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

SECTION 1. Section 29.011, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 29.011. TRANSITION PLANNING. The commissioner shall by rule adopt procedures for compliance with federal requirements relating to transition services for students who are enrolled in special education programs under this subchapter. The procedures must:

(1) provide that transition planning begins for a student not later than when the student reaches 14 years of age; and

(2) specify the manner in which a student's admission, review, and dismissal committee must consider, and if appropriate, address the following issues in the student's individualized education program:

(A) [~~(1)~~] appropriate student involvement in the student's transition to life outside the public school system;

(B) [~~(2)~~] if the student is younger than 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition;

(C) [~~(3)~~] if the student is at least 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition,

1 if the parent is invited to participate by the student or the school
2 district in which the student is enrolled;

3 (D) [~~(4)~~] any postsecondary education options;

4 (E) [~~(5)~~] a functional vocational evaluation;

5 (F) [~~(6)~~] employment goals and objectives;

6 (G) [~~(7)~~] if the student is at least 18 years of
7 age, the availability of age-appropriate instructional
8 environments;

9 (H) [~~(8)~~] independent living goals and
10 objectives; and

11 (I) [~~(9)~~] appropriate circumstances for
12 referring a student or the student's parents to a governmental
13 agency for services.

14 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
15 school year.

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