

1-1 By: Shapiro S.B. No. 987  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 19, 2009; March 9, 2009,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;  
1-4 March 13, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,  
1-5 Nays 0; March 13, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the age at which transition planning begins for a public  
1-9 school student receiving special education services.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 29.011, Education Code, is amended to  
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 29.011. TRANSITION PLANNING. The commissioner shall  
1-14 by rule adopt procedures for compliance with federal requirements  
1-15 relating to transition services for students who are enrolled in  
1-16 special education programs under this subchapter. The procedures  
1-17 must:

1-18 (1) provide that transition planning begins for a  
1-19 student not later than when the student reaches 14 years of age; and

1-20 (2) specify the manner in which a student's admission,  
1-21 review, and dismissal committee must consider, and if appropriate,  
1-22 address the following issues in the student's individualized  
1-23 education program:

1-24 (A) [~~(1)~~] appropriate student involvement in the  
1-25 student's transition to life outside the public school system;

1-26 (B) [~~(2)~~] if the student is younger than 18 years  
1-27 of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's  
1-28 transition;

1-29 (C) [~~(3)~~] if the student is at least 18 years of  
1-30 age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition,  
1-31 if the parent is invited to participate by the student or the school  
1-32 district in which the student is enrolled;

1-33 (D) [~~(4)~~] any postsecondary education options;

1-34 (E) [~~(5)~~] a functional vocational evaluation;

1-35 (F) [~~(6)~~] employment goals and objectives;

1-36 (G) [~~(7)~~] if the student is at least 18 years of  
1-37 age, the availability of age-appropriate instructional  
1-38 environments;

1-39 (H) [~~(8)~~] independent living goals and  
1-40 objectives; and

1-41 (I) [~~(9)~~] appropriate circumstances for  
1-42 referring a student or the student's parents to a governmental  
1-43 agency for services.

1-44 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
1-45 school year.

1-46 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-47 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-48 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-49 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-50 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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