

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 1400

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to excused absences from public schools for voting in  
3 certain elections.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 25.087(b), Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending  
8 school for:

9 (1) the following purposes, including travel for those  
10 purposes:

11 (A) observing religious holy days; or

12 (B) attending a required court appearance; or

13 (2) a temporary absence for the following purposes,  
14 ~~[resulting from health care professionals]~~ if that student  
15 commences classes or returns to school on the same day as the  
16 temporary absence:

17 (A) attending an appointment with a health care  
18 professional; or

19 (B) voting in a national, state, or local  
20 election ~~[of the appointment].~~

21 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
22 school year.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.