

By: Shapiro

S.B. No. 1577

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to excused absences from public school attendance for a
3 student diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder to attend a health
4 care appointment.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsection (b-3) to read as follows:

8 (b-3) A temporary absence for purposes of Subsection (b)(2)
9 includes the temporary absence of a student diagnosed with autism
10 spectrum disorder on the day of the student's appointment with a
11 health care practitioner, as described by Section 1355.015(b),
12 Insurance Code, to receive a generally recognized service for
13 persons with autism spectrum disorder, including applied
14 behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.

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