

1-1 By: Shapiro S.B. No. 1577
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2009; March 17, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 8, 2009,
1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;
1-5 April 8, 2009, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to excused absences from public school attendance for a
1-9 student diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder to attend a health
1-10 care appointment.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by
1-13 adding Subsection (b-3) to read as follows:

1-14 (b-3) A temporary absence for purposes of Subsection (b)(2)
1-15 includes the temporary absence of a student diagnosed with autism
1-16 spectrum disorder on the day of the student's appointment with a
1-17 health care practitioner, as described by Section 1355.015(b),
1-18 Insurance Code, to receive a generally recognized service for
1-19 persons with autism spectrum disorder, including applied
1-20 behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.

1-21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-25 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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