

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 135

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to field experience requirements for educator certification.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.051, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.051. RULES REGARDING FIELD EXPERIENCE AND OPTIONS FOR FIELD EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS. (a) In this section, "teacher of record" means a person employed by a school district who teaches the majority of the instructional day in an academic instructional setting and is responsible for evaluating student achievement and assigning grades.

(b) Before a school district may employ a candidate for certification as a teacher of record, the candidate must complete at least 15 hours of field experience in which the candidate is physically present in a classroom instructing students at:

(1) a campus assigned an acceptable performance rating in a school district assigned an accredited status as provided by Subchapter C, Chapter 39; or

(2) a private school recognized for the purpose by the agency.

(c) The board shall propose rules relating to the field experience required by Subsection (b). The commissioner by rule shall adopt procedures and standards for recognizing a private

1 school under Subsection (b)(2).

2 (d) The board shall propose rules providing flexible
3 options for persons for any field experience or internship required
4 for certification.

5 SECTION 2. On or before January 1, 2012, the State Board for
6 Educator Certification shall propose rules and the Texas Education
7 Agency shall adopt rules relating to educator certification as
8 prescribed by Section 21.051, Education Code, as amended by this
9 Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.