

By: White

H.B. No. 3339

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the conversion of certain public school campuses to charter campuses.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 12, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 12.0522 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.0522. ALTERNATIVE AUTHORIZATION: CERTAIN UNACCEPTABLE CAMPUSES. (a) In accordance with this subchapter, the board of trustees of a school district shall grant a charter to parents for a campus if:

(1) the board is presented with a petition signed by the parents of a majority of the students at that campus; and

(2) the campus has been assigned a rating of unacceptable performance under Section 39.054 for the two preceding school years.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(1), the signature of only one parent for each student is required.

(c) Not later than January 1 of each year, the commissioner shall, based on the most recent information available, provide notice to each school district in which a campus described by Subsection (a)(2) is located that identifies each campus in the district that meets the description in Subsection (a)(2). Not later than February 1 of each year, a district shall notify the parent of each student in the district assigned to attend a campus

1 described by Subsection (a)(2) that the parents are entitled to  
2 petition the district to convert the campus to a charter campus as  
3 provided by this section. The notice must contain a clear, concise  
4 explanation of the petition and charter conversion process and of  
5 the manner in which the parent may obtain further information about  
6 the process.

7 (d) After the board of trustees of a school district  
8 receives a petition under Subsection (a), the board shall issue a  
9 request for proposals to select an entity to contract with the  
10 district to provide educational services through the campus.

11 (e) The board of trustees of the school district shall  
12 appoint a committee to, in accordance with board of trustees  
13 policy, review each proposal submitted by an entity as provided by  
14 Subsection (d) and make a recommendation regarding selection to the  
15 board. The committee members must include members of the board of  
16 trustees, district educators, and parents who signed the petition  
17 under Subsection (a). At least two-thirds of the members appointed  
18 to the committee must be parents who signed the petition under  
19 Subsection (a). A parent who is a district employee is not  
20 considered a parent member of the committee.

21 (f) The school district shall follow the recommendation of  
22 the committee appointed under Subsection (e) to the greatest extent  
23 practicable.

24 (g) If a school district fails to take the actions required  
25 under this section, the parents may appeal to the commissioner and  
26 the commissioner may take action to compel the district to act or  
27 act on behalf of the district under this section.

1           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.