

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 54
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 8, 2010; January 31, 2011,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;
1-4 March 30, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,
1-5 Nays 0; March 30, 2011, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to certification to teach public school students who have
1-9 visual impairments.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is
1-12 amended by adding Section 21.0485 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 21.0485. CERTIFICATION TO TEACH STUDENTS WITH VISUAL
1-14 IMPAIRMENTS. (a) To be eligible to be issued a certificate to
1-15 teach students with visual impairments, a person must:

1-16 (1) complete either:

1-17 (A) all course work required for that
1-18 certification in an approved educator preparation program; or

1-19 (B) an alternative educator certification
1-20 program approved for the purpose by the board;

1-21 (2) perform satisfactorily on each examination
1-22 prescribed under Section 21.048 for certification to teach students
1-23 with visual impairments, after completing the course work or
1-24 program described by Subdivision (1); and

1-25 (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the
1-26 board.

1-27 (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to eligibility for a
1-28 certificate to teach students with visual impairments, including
1-29 eligibility for renewal of that certificate, if the application for
1-30 the initial certificate was submitted on or before September 1,
1-31 2011.

1-32 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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