

By: Shapiro

S.B. No. 202

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to achievement benchmarks in fiscal notes and to legislative review of those benchmarks.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 314, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 314.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 314.006. PURPOSE STATEMENT AND BENCHMARKS; LEGISLATIVE REVIEW. (a) The Legislative Budget Board shall include in any fiscal note attached to a bill that authorizes or requires the expenditure or diversion of state funds:

(1) a statement of the purposes of the bill; and

(2) a set of reasonable benchmarks that provide a mechanism for measuring whether and to what degree the bill's purposes have been achieved.

(b) In preparing the statement and benchmarks under Subsection (a), the board shall coordinate with the author or sponsor of the bill to determine the purposes of the bill and to set reasonable benchmarks.

(c) Before the first day of the third regular legislative session after a bill subject to this section becomes law, the board shall evaluate whether the benchmarks required under Subsection (a) have been met and shall provide to the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives a report on its findings regarding each bill subject to review under this section.

1 (d) If the report submitted under Subsection (c) indicates
2 that the board finds a benchmark has not been met, the legislature
3 shall review the statutes enacted or amended by the bill to
4 determine whether:

5 (1) additional expenditure or diversion of state funds
6 should be made to fund the purposes of the bill; or

7 (2) the statutes enacted or amended by the bill should
8 be repealed or amended.

9 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to bills filed on or after
10 September 1, 2011.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.