

AN ACT

relating to excused absences from public school for certain students.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.087(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending school for:

(1) the following purposes, including travel for those purposes:

(A) observing religious holy days;

(B) attending a required court appearance;

(C) appearing at a governmental office to complete paperwork required in connection with the student's application for United States citizenship;

(D) taking part in a United States naturalization oath ceremony; or

(E) serving as an election clerk; or

(2) a temporary absence resulting from an appointment with health care professionals for the student or the student's child if the ~~that~~ student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.

1           SECTION 3. 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, 2013.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 455 was passed by the House on April 12, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 455 was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor