

By: Dukes

H.B. No. 455

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to excused absences from public school for certain
3 students.

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

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

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

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

11 (A) observing religious holy days;

12 (B) attending a required court appearance;

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

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

18 (E) serving as an election clerk; or

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

23 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2013-2014
24 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.