

By: Deuell

S.B. No. 453

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to payment of tuition to attend public schools for students holding certain United States student visas.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 25, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 25.0031 to read as follows:

Sec. 25.0031. TUITION FOR STUDENTS HOLDING CERTAIN STUDENT VISAS. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, if a student is required, as a condition of obtaining or holding the appropriate United States student visa, to pay tuition to the school district or open-enrollment charter school that the student attends to cover the cost of the student's education provided by the district or charter school, the district or charter school shall accept tuition for the student in an amount equal to the full unsubsidized per capita cost of providing the student's education for the period of the student's attendance at school in the district or at the charter school.

(b) The commissioner shall, for purposes of Subsection (a), develop guidelines for determining the amount of the full unsubsidized per capita cost of providing a student's education. A school district or open-enrollment charter school may not accept tuition in an amount greater than the amount computed under the commissioner's guidelines unless the commissioner approves a greater amount as a more accurate reflection of the cost of

1 education to be provided by the district or charter school.

2 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, the
3 attendance of a student for whom a school district or
4 open-enrollment charter school accepts tuition under this section
5 is not counted for purposes of allocating state funds to the
6 district or charter school.

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

9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.