

By: Taylor, et al.

S.B. No. 1263

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to allowing parents to petition for repurposing,  
3 alternative management, or closure of certain public school  
4 campuses.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39.107, Education Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsections (e-2) and (e-3) and adding Subsections (e-4)  
8 and (e-5) to read as follows:

9 (e-2) For purposes of this subsection, "parent" has the  
10 meaning assigned by Section 12.051. Notwithstanding any other  
11 provision of this chapter, if [if] the commissioner is presented,  
12 in the time and manner specified by commissioner rule, a written  
13 petition signed by the parents of a majority of the students  
14 enrolled at a campus that is assigned an unacceptable performance  
15 rating under Section 39.054 for three consecutive school years [to  
16 which Subsection (e) applies], specifying the action described by  
17 Subsection (e)(1), (2), or (3) that the parents request the  
18 commissioner to order, the commissioner shall, except as otherwise  
19 authorized by this subsection, order the specific action requested.  
20 The commissioner shall verify that a petition received under this  
21 subsection contains the required number of signatures. If the  
22 board of trustees of the school district in which the campus is  
23 located presents to the commissioner, in the time and manner  
24 specified by commissioner rule, a written request that the

1 commissioner order specific action authorized under Subsection (e)  
2 other than the specific action requested in the parents' petition  
3 and a written explanation of the basis for the board's request, the  
4 commissioner may order the action requested by the board of  
5 trustees.

6 (e-3) For purposes of Subsection (e-2), the petition shall:

7 (1) be developed by the commissioner;

8 (2) be made available to all parents or guardians of  
9 students enrolled at the campus;

10 (3) include unbiased information on the status of the  
11 campus, including why the campus has been assigned an unacceptable  
12 performance rating in each year;

13 (4) include detailed information on the options  
14 available for the campus, including a copy of the proposed options  
15 listed under Subsection (e); and

16 (5) require the signature of only one parent of a  
17 student [~~is required~~].

18 (e-4) The governing body of an open-enrollment charter  
19 school may not coerce, bribe, or induce a parent to sign a petition  
20 under Subsection (e-2).

21 (e-5) If the commissioner orders repurposing of a campus or  
22 alternative management of a campus under Subsection (e-2), the  
23 campus shall remain a part of the school district in which the  
24 campus was included before the commissioner ordered repurposing or  
25 alternative management.

26 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016  
27 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.