

By: King of Hemphill

H.B. No. 1801

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a technology grant to be awarded to public school districts that have received certain performance ratings.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 32.351. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM. (a) The commissioner shall establish a grant program under which a grant is awarded to a school district that has received a performance rating of D or F, as provided by Section 39.054, for the preceding school year.

(b) A school district may apply to the commissioner to participate in the grant program. In awarding grants under this subchapter for each school year, the commissioner shall consider the availability of existing technological equipment to students in the district.

(c) The commissioner may determine the terms of a grant awarded under this subchapter, including limits on the grant amount and the approved uses of grant funds.

Sec. 32.352. FUNDING. The commissioner shall award grants under this subchapter using funds appropriated for that purpose.

Sec. 32.353. USE OF GRANT FUNDS. A school district may use a grant awarded under Section 32.351 to expand access to

1 technologies that are necessary to improve access to high quality
2 digital learning at campuses in the district, including:

3 (1) purchasing and maintaining technological
4 equipment;

5 (2) providing instruction on the use of technological
6 equipment; and

7 (3) increasing the technological literacy of
8 students.

9 SECTION 2. 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, 2015.