

By: Turner of Harris

H.B. No. 3896

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to school textbooks.

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

SECTION 1. Section 26.006, Texas Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 26.006. ACCESS TO TEACHING MATERIALS. (a) A parent is entitled to:

(1) review all teaching materials, instructional materials, and other teaching aids used in the classroom of the parent's child; and

(2) review each test administered to the parent's child after the test is administered.

(b) A school district shall make teaching materials and tests readily available for review by parents. The district may specify reasonable hours for review.

(c) A student's parent is entitled to request that the school district or open-enrollment charter school the student attends allow the student to take home any instructional materials used by the student. If the student does not have reliable access to technology at home, the school district or open-enrollment charter school shall provide the instructional materials printed in book format. Subject to the availability of the instructional materials, the district or school shall honor the request. A student who takes home instructional materials must return the instructional

1 materials to school at the beginning of the next school day if
2 requested to do so by the student's teacher. In this subsection,
3 "instructional material" has the meaning assigned by Section
4 31.002.

5 (d) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
6 must document each parental request which is denied, including the
7 reason for denial, and must report the documentation to the Texas
8 Education Agency not later than 30 days after the parental request
9 is made.

10 (e) The agency shall submit an annual report to the
11 legislature not later than September 1 of each year that identifies
12 the number of parental requests which were denied, including the
13 reason for denial, for each school district or open-enrollment
14 charter school.

15 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.