

By: Rodríguez
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S.B. No. 161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding the costs of educating students of limited English proficiency in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.068 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.068. STUDY REGARDING COSTS OF EDUCATING STUDENTS OF LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY; REPORT. (a) The agency shall conduct a study to examine the costs of educating a student of limited English proficiency in public schools. The study must:

(1) determine whether the bilingual education allotment under Section 42.153 provides adequate funding to schools for meeting the educational needs of students of limited English proficiency;

(2) if it is determined under Subdivision (1) that the bilingual education allotment is inadequate, determine the amount of adjustment for the bilingual education allotment that would provide adequate funding to schools for meeting the educational needs of students of limited English proficiency;

(3) determine whether the educational needs of students of limited English proficiency and the costs of meeting those needs vary by grade level from kindergarten through the 12th grade; and

(4) identify measures that may lower costs and improve

1 outcomes, including the following measures:

2 (A) implementation of:

3 (i) new technologies;

4 (ii) new teaching mediums; and

5 (iii) new teaching techniques; and

6 (B) changes to the duration of the academic
7 calendar and school day.

8 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, the agency shall prepare
9 a report detailing the results of the study under this section and
10 submit the report to each standing legislative committee with
11 primary jurisdiction over primary and secondary education.

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