

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1221

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to public school class size limits.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 25.112(a) and (d), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise authorized by this section, a school district may not enroll at a campus more than a campus-wide average at each grade level of 22 students in a class in ~~a~~ kindergarten, first, second, third, and ~~or~~ fourth grade ~~class~~. That limitation does not apply during:

(1) any 12-week period of the school year selected by the district, in the case of a district whose average daily attendance is adjusted under Section 42.005(c); or

(2) the last 12 weeks of any school year in the case of any other district.

(d) On application of a school district, the commissioner may except the district from the limit in Subsection (a) for the school year if the commissioner finds the limit works an undue hardship on the district. An exception expires at the end of the school year for which it is granted.

SECTION 2. Section 25.113(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A campus or district that is granted an exception under Section 25.112(d) from class size limits shall provide written

1 notice of the exception to the parent of or person standing in
2 parental relation to each student affected by the exception. The
3 notice must be in conspicuous bold or underlined print and:

4 (1) specify the grade level [~~class~~] for which an
5 exception from the limit imposed by Section 25.112(a) was granted;

6 (2) state the number of children in each [~~the~~] class at
7 the grade level for which the exception was granted; and

8 (3) be included in a regular mailing or other
9 communication from the campus or district, such as information sent
10 home with students.

11 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016
12 school year.

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.