

By: Klick

H.B. No. 153

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the issuance of personal identification documents for
3 foster children, homeless children or youth, and unaccompanied
4 youth.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 191, Health and Safety
7 Code, is amended by adding Section 191.0049 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 191.0049. BIRTH RECORD ISSUED TO FOSTER CHILD OR
9 HOMELESS OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH. On request of a child described by
10 this section, the state registrar, a local registrar, or a county
11 clerk shall issue, without fee or parental consent, a certified
12 copy of the child's birth record to:

13 (1) a homeless child or youth or an unaccompanied
14 youth as those terms are defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a; and

15 (2) a child in the managing conservatorship of the
16 Department of Family and Protective Services.

17 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
18 is amended by adding Section 521.1015 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 521.1015. PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED
20 TO FOSTER OR HOMELESS CHILD. (a) In this section:

21 (1) "Foster child" means a person who is 16 years of
22 age or older and in the managing conservatorship of the Department
23 of Family and Protective Services.

24 (2) "Homeless child or youth" has the meaning assigned

1 by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a.

2 (3) "Unaccompanied youth" has the meaning assigned by
3 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a.

4 (b) This section applies to the application for a personal
5 identification certificate only for a foster child, a homeless
6 child or youth, or an unaccompanied youth.

7 (c) Notwithstanding Section 521.101, Section 521.1426, or
8 any other provision of this chapter, a child or youth described by
9 Subsection (b) may, in applying for a personal identification
10 certificate:

11 (1) provide a copy of the child's or youth's birth
12 certificate as proof of the child's or youth's identity and United
13 States citizenship, as applicable; and

14 (2) if the child or youth does not have a residence or
15 domicile, provide a letter from the school district in which the
16 child or youth is enrolled certifying that the child or youth is a
17 homeless child or youth or an unaccompanied youth.

18 (d) A child or youth described by Subsection (b) may apply
19 for and the department may issue a personal identification
20 certificate without the signature or presence of or permission from
21 a parent or guardian of the child or youth.

22 (e) A child or youth described by Subsection (b) is exempt
23 from the payment of any fee for the issuance of a personal
24 identification certificate under this chapter.

25 SECTION 3. Section 521.1811, Transportation Code, is
26 amended to read as follows:

27 Sec. 521.1811. WAIVER OF FEES FOR FOSTER CHILD OR HOMELESS

1 OR UNACCOMPANIED [~~CARE~~] YOUTH. A person is exempt from the payment
2 of any fee for the issuance of a driver's license, as provided under
3 this chapter, if that person is:

4 (1) younger than 18 years of age and in the managing
5 conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective
6 Services; [~~or~~]

7 (2) at least 18 years of age, but younger than 21 years
8 of age, and resides in a foster care placement, the cost of which is
9 paid by the Department of Family and Protective Services; or

10 (3) a homeless child or youth or an unaccompanied
11 youth as those terms are defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a.

12 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply to an
13 application for a driver's license, personal identification
14 certificate, or birth certificate submitted on or after the
15 effective date of this Act. An application for a driver's license,
16 personal identification certificate, or birth certificate
17 submitted before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
18 law in effect on the date the application was submitted, and the
19 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect December 1, 2017.