

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.B. No. 545

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the opportunity of certain patriotic societies to  
3 present information regarding the society to public school students  
4 during regular school hours.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 25, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 25.0822 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 25.0822. PATRIOTIC SOCIETY ACCESS TO STUDENTS. (a) In  
9 this section, "patriotic society" means a youth membership  
10 organization listed in Title 36 of the United States Code with an  
11 educational purpose that promotes patriotism and civic  
12 involvement.

13 (b) At the beginning of each school year, the principal of a  
14 public school campus shall provide representatives of a patriotic  
15 society with the opportunity to speak to students during regular  
16 school hours about membership in the society and the ways in which  
17 membership may promote a student's educational interest and level  
18 of civic involvement, leading to the student's increased potential  
19 for self-improvement and ability to contribute to improving the  
20 student's school and community.

21 (c) A principal has complete discretion over the specific  
22 date and time of the opportunity required to be provided under this  
23 section, except that:

24 (1) the principal must limit the opportunity provided

1 to a patriotic society to a single school day; and

2 (2) any presentation made to students as a result of  
3 the opportunity may not exceed 10 minutes in length.

4 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018  
5 school year.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.