

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 1042

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to student access to public school instructional materials  
3 and technology.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 26.006, Education Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read  
7 as follows:

8 (c) A student's parent is entitled to request that the  
9 school district or open-enrollment charter school the student  
10 attends allow the student to take home any instructional materials  
11 used by the student. Subject to the availability of the  
12 instructional materials, the district or school shall honor the  
13 request. A student who takes home instructional materials must  
14 return the instructional materials to school at the beginning of  
15 the next school day if requested to do so by the student's teacher.  
16 A school district or open-enrollment charter school must provide  
17 the instructional materials to the student in printed book format  
18 if the student does not have reliable access to technology at the  
19 student's home. In this subsection, "instructional material" has  
20 the meaning assigned by Section 31.002.

21 (d) A school district or open-enrollment charter school  
22 must document each parental request made under Subsection (c) to  
23 allow a student to take home instructional material used by the  
24 student that the district or school denies. The documentation must

1 include the reasons for denying the request. Not later than the  
2 30th day after the date the district or school receives the request,  
3 the district or school must report to the agency that the request  
4 has been denied.

5 (e) Not later than September 1 of each year, the agency  
6 shall submit an annual report to the legislature that includes the  
7 number of parental requests made under Subsection (c) to allow a  
8 student to take home instructional material used by the student  
9 that each school district and open-enrollment charter school denied  
10 and the reasons for the denial.

11 SECTION 2. Section 26.006, Education Code, as amended by  
12 this Act, applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

13 SECTION 3. 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, 2017.