

By: Minjarez

H.B. No. 2518

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to student/teacher ratios for prekindergarten classes provided by or on behalf of public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.1535 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.1535. STUDENT/TEACHER RATIOS. A school district that offers a prekindergarten program under Section 29.153 or a private entity that provides a prekindergarten program under contract with a school district must maintain an average ratio of not less than one certified teacher or teacher's aide for each 11 students.

SECTION 2. Section 29.167(d), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) A school district must ~~[attempt to]~~ maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of not less than one certified teacher or teacher's aide for each 11 students.

SECTION 3. Section 29.171(c), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A prekindergarten program provided by a private provider under this section is subject to the requirements of this subchapter, including the student/teacher ratio requirement imposed under Section 29.167(d).

SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018

1 school year.

2 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.