

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 606

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a school district of innovation to administer alternative assessment instruments to district students.

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

SECTION 1. Section 12A.003, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(b) A local innovation plan must:

(1) provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district, which program may include:

(A) innovative curriculum, instructional methods, and provisions regarding community participation, campus governance, and parental involvement;

(B) modifications to the school day or year;

(C) provisions regarding the district budget and sustainable program funding;

(D) administration of national norm-referenced assessment instruments instead of state assessment instruments adopted under Section 39.023;

(E) accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and

(F) [(E)] any other innovations prescribed by the board of trustees; and

(2) identify requirements imposed by this code that inhibit the goals of the plan and from which the district should be exempted on adoption of the plan, subject to Section 12A.004.

(c) If a local innovation plan includes the administration of national assessment instruments as provided by Subsection (b)(1)(D), the commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to:

(1) ensure that information regarding student performance on the national assessment instruments is provided to the agency; and

(2) provide procedures for the commissioner to assign performance ratings to the district under Section 39.054 based on student performance on the national assessment instruments.

SECTION 2. Section 12A.004(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A local innovation plan may not provide for the exemption of a district designated as a district of innovation from the following provisions of this title:

(1) a state or federal requirement applicable to an open-enrollment charter school operating under Subchapter D, Chapter 12;

(2) Subchapters A, C, D, and E, Chapter 11, except that a district may be exempt from Sections 11.1511(b)(5) and (14) and Section 11.162;

(3) state curriculum and graduation requirements adopted under Chapter 28; and

(4) academic and financial accountability and sanctions under Chapter 39, except as provided by Sections

1 12A.003(b)(1)(D) and (c).

2       SECTION 3. 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.