

By: Huffines

S.B. No. 1280

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the minimum amount of student instruction required to be provided by school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.081, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) Except as authorized under Subsection (b) of this section, Section 25.084, or Section 29.0821, for each school year each school district must operate so that the district provides for at least, at the choice of the district:

(1) 75,600 minutes of instruction, including intermissions and recesses, for students; or

(2) 180 days of instruction for students.

(a-1) Not later than May 1 of each year, each school district shall notify the commissioner whether the district will comply with Subsection (a) on the basis of minutes of instruction or days of instruction. The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to administer this subsection.

(b) The commissioner may approve the instruction of students for fewer than the number of minutes or days required under Subsection (a) if disaster, flood, extreme weather conditions, fuel curtailment, or another calamity causes the closing of schools.

(c) If the commissioner does not approve reduced

1 instruction time under Subsection (b), a school district may add
2 additional minutes to the end of the district's normal school hours
3 or additional days to the district's normal school calendar as
4 necessary to compensate for minutes or days of instruction lost due
5 to school closures caused by disaster, flood, extreme weather
6 conditions, fuel curtailment, or another calamity.

7 (e) For purposes of this code, a reference to a day of
8 instruction means a calendar day in which a student is scheduled for
9 and receives at least the minimum number of instructional hours
10 required for the student to be considered full-time for the purpose
11 of calculating average daily attendance under Section 42.005 [42.0
12 ~~minutes of instruction~~].

13 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
14 school year.

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