

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to evaluation under the state accountability system of  
3 school district campuses that enroll certain students who receive  
4 special education services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 39.0547 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 39.0547. EVALUATING SPECIALIZED SUPPORT CAMPUSES. (a)  
9 In this section, "specialized support campus" means a school  
10 district campus that:

11 (1) has a campus identification number;

12 (2) serves students enrolled in any grade level at  
13 which state assessment instruments are administered; and

14 (3) has a student enrollment in which:

15 (A) at least 90 percent of students receive  
16 special education services under Subchapter A, Chapter 29; and

17 (B) a significant percentage of the students  
18 required to take an assessment instrument under Section 39.023:

19 (i) take an alternative assessment  
20 instrument under Section 39.023(b) or (b-1); and

21 (ii) are unable to provide an authentic  
22 academic response on that assessment instrument.

23 (b) The commissioner, in consultation with administrators  
24 of specialized support campuses, teachers at specialized support

1 campuses, parents and guardians of students enrolled at specialized  
2 support campuses, and other stakeholders, by rule shall establish  
3 appropriate accountability guidelines under this chapter for use by  
4 a specialized support campus in developing an alternative  
5 accountability plan under Subsection (c) based on the specific  
6 student population served by the campus. The commissioner shall  
7 provide for public notice and comment in adopting rules under this  
8 subsection.

9 (c) A specialized support campus may develop and submit to  
10 the commissioner for approval an alternative accountability plan  
11 tailored to the student population served by the campus, based on  
12 the guidelines established under Subsection (b). The commissioner  
13 may approve the alternative accountability plan only if the plan:

14 (1) follows the guidelines established under  
15 Subsection (b); and

16 (2) complies with applicable federal law.

17 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, if the  
18 commissioner approves an alternative accountability plan developed  
19 by a specialized support campus under Subsection (c), the  
20 commissioner shall determine, report, and consider the performance  
21 of students enrolled at the campus using that plan.

22 (e) Not later than December 1, 2022, the commissioner shall  
23 submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the  
24 house of representatives, and the standing legislative committees  
25 with primary jurisdiction over public education a report on the  
26 effectiveness of this section in evaluating specialized support  
27 campuses and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

1        (f) This section expires September 1, 2023.

2        SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020  
3 school year.

4        SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.