

By: Talarico

H.B. No. 3008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of a civic education project fund for
3 supporting student civic education projects and educator
4 professional development related to those projects.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 29.919 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 29.919. CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECT FUND. (a) In this
9 section:

10 (1) "Civic education project" means a project that
11 includes the concepts of civic engagement and the rights and
12 responsibilities of citizenship and may combine out-of-school
13 service experience with academic study.

14 (2) "Fund" means the civic education project fund.

15 (b) The civic education project fund is an account in the
16 general revenue fund administered by the commissioner.

17 (c) The fund consists of:

18 (1) gifts, grants, or donations to the fund; and

19 (2) money appropriated, credited, or transferred to
20 the fund by or at the direction of the legislature.

21 (d) The fund is established for the purpose of:

22 (1) providing public school students enrolled in the
23 fourth or a higher grade who are economically disadvantaged, as
24 determined by the commissioner, the opportunity to complete a civic

1 education project; and

2 (2) supporting educator professional development to
3 assist educators in preparing students described by Subdivision (1)
4 to successfully complete a civic education project.

5 (e) Money in the fund may be used only as provided by this
6 section.

7 (f) In allocating money from the fund, the commissioner may
8 give priority to a school district in which at least 40 percent of
9 the students enrolled in the district on September 1 of the school
10 year are economically disadvantaged, as determined by the
11 commissioner.

12 (g) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this
13 section.

14 SECTION 2. The fund established under Section 29.919,
15 Education Code, as added by this Act, may be used for the purposes
16 described by Subsection (d) of that section beginning with the
17 2020-2021 school year.

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