

By: Meza

H.B. No. 3037

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation of a task force to study the segregation of
3 public school students with disabilities from other public school
4 students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 29.028 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 29.028. TASK FORCE ON THE SEGREGATION OF STUDENTS WITH
9 DISABILITIES. (a) The agency shall establish a task force to study
10 the segregation of public school students with disabilities from
11 other public school students.

12 (b) The task force shall be composed of teachers, advocates,
13 parents, and other stakeholders selected by the agency.

14 (c) The agency shall designate a member of the task force to
15 serve as presiding officer.

16 (d) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same
17 manner as the initial selection.

18 (e) A member of the task force may not receive compensation
19 for service on the task force but is entitled to reimbursement for
20 actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing task force
21 duties.

22 (f) The task force may accept gifts and grants from any
23 source to be used to carry out a function of the task force.

24 (g) The task force shall meet at least quarterly at the call

1 of the presiding officer and at other times as determined by the
2 presiding officer.

3 (h) The task force shall:

4 (1) conduct an ongoing study of the effect of public
5 schools segregating students with disabilities from other
6 students. The study must address:

7 (A) student achievement on assessment
8 instruments adopted under Chapter 39;

9 (B) student absences from class;

10 (C) student violations of the student code of
11 conduct; and

12 (D) other factors as determined relevant by the
13 agency; and

14 (2) develop recommendations for schools to better
15 integrate students with disabilities into all school activities.

16 (i) Not less than once every two years, the task force shall
17 submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the
18 house of representatives, and the standing committees of the
19 legislature having jurisdiction over the agency a report that
20 summarizes the study conducted and recommendations developed under
21 Subsection (h).

22 (j) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
23 task force established under this section.

24 (k) The task force shall submit the first report required
25 under Subsection (i) not later than December 31, 2020.

26 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2019, the Texas
27 Education Agency shall appoint members to the task force

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1 established by Section 29.028, Education Code, as added by this
2 Act, in the manner required by Subsection (b) of that section.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.