By:  Menéndez S.B. No. 2044

(In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2021; April 1, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 23, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0; April 23, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                    Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Taylor            X

Lucio                X

Bettencourt          X

Hall                 X

Hughes               X

Menéndez             X

Paxton               X

Perry                X

Powell               X

Schwertner           X

West                 X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 162.001, Education Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3)  "State Advisory Council" means the State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children established under Section 162.006.

SECTION 2.  Chapter 162, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 162.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 162.006.  STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND COORDINATION. (a) The compact commissioner, in coordination with the Texas Education Agency, shall establish the State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to provide for coordination among state agencies, school districts, and military installations concerning the state's participation in and compliance with the compact and compact activities, as required by Article VIII of the compact.

(b)  The State Advisory Council consists of:

(1)  the commissioner of education or the commissioner's designee;

(2)  a superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children designated by the agency;

(3)  the governor or the governor's designee;

(4)  the chair of the senate committee on education or a member of the senate committee on education designated by the agency;

(5)  the chair of the house of representatives committee on public education or a member of the house of representatives committee on public education designated by the agency;

(6)  a representative from each branch of the armed services of the United States that maintains an installation in the state, designated by the agency; and

(7)  representatives of other offices and stakeholder groups the agency deems appropriate.

(c)  Members of the State Advisory Council may delegate voting authority to another person for a specified meeting or meetings.

(d)  Meetings of the State Advisory Council may be conducted face-to-face or by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication.

(e)  The State Advisory Council shall:

(1)  meet at least quarterly; and

(2)  provide State Advisory Council meeting dates, agendas, minutes, end-of-year reports, and other documentation as required to the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission.

(f)  The State Advisory Council shall perform each function or duty required or authorized under Article VIII of the compact.

(g)  The State Advisory Council shall establish policies and procedures governing the State Advisory Council's operations.

(h)  The State Advisory Council is a governmental body for purposes of Chapter 551, Government Code.

SECTION 3.  Section 162.005, Education Code, is repealed.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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