

By: Howard

H.B. No. 3861

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a task force to study the effect of delayed school start times on students.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

(1) "Agency" means the Texas Education Agency.

(2) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of education.

(3) "Task force" means the task force established under this Act.

SECTION 2. TASK FORCE TO STUDY SCHOOL DAY START TIMES. (a)

A task force is established under this section to study the effect of school day start times on students in kindergarten through grade 12.

(b) The commissioner shall appoint members of the task force, including:

(1) one pediatrician;

(2) one physician who specializes in sleep disorders;

(3) one mental health professional who specializes in adolescent health issues;

(4) one representative of the National Alliance on Mental Illness;

(5) one representative of the Texas Psychology Association;

- 1           (6) one representative of Every Texan;
- 2           (7) one representative of Raise Your Hand Texas;
- 3           (8) one representative of Start School Later Texas;
- 4           (9) one representative of the Texas Pediatric Society;
- 5           (10) one representative of the Texas School Health  
6 Advisory Committee;
- 7           (11) one representative of the Texas Association of  
8 School Administrators;
- 9           (12) one representative of the Texas Professional  
10 Educators;
- 11           (13) one representative of the Texas School Nurses  
12 Organization;
- 13           (14) one representative of the Texas Principals  
14 Association;
- 15           (15) one representative of the Texas Association for  
16 Pupil Transportation;
- 17           (16) one student enrolled in public school in this  
18 state;
- 19           (17) one representative of the American Academy of  
20 Child and Adolescent Psychiatry;
- 21           (18) one representative of the American Academy of  
22 Pediatrics;
- 23           (19) one representative of the American Academy of  
24 Sleep Medicine;
- 25           (20) one representative of the American Medical  
26 Association;
- 27           (21) one representative of Goose Creek Consolidated

1 Independent School District;

2 (22) one representative of the Centers for Disease  
3 Control and Prevention;

4 (23) one representative of Texas Children's Hospital;

5 (24) one representative of Texas Tech University  
6 Health Science Center;

7 (25) one representative of University of Texas Medical  
8 Branch;

9 (26) one representative of Circadian Sleep Disorders  
10 Network;

11 (27) one representative of Sleep Medicine and  
12 Neurology Consultants;

13 (28) one representative of Children's Health Dallas;

14 (29) one representative of the League of Women Voters  
15 of Tarrant County;

16 (30) one representative of the National Education  
17 Association;

18 (31) one representative of the National Parent Teacher  
19 Association;

20 (32) one representative of Deer Park Independent  
21 School District; and

22 (33) one representative of the Society of Pediatric  
23 Nurses.

24 (c) The members of the task force shall select the presiding  
25 officer of the task force.

26 (d) The presiding officer shall call the initial meeting of  
27 the task force not later than January 1, 2022. The task force shall

1 meet at the times and places that the presiding officer determines  
2 are appropriate. The task force shall adopt rules necessary to  
3 fulfill the task force's duties under this section.

4 (e) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the  
5 task force.

6 SECTION 3. DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE. The task force shall:

7 (1) conduct a study that:

8 (A) evaluates the effect of daily school start  
9 and end times on students in kindergarten through grade 12;

10 (B) considers any negative impacts on public and  
11 private school students and families that may arise from delayed  
12 daily school start and end times;

13 (C) evaluates studies or initiatives relating to  
14 school start times that are supported by national education  
15 advocacy organizations; and

16 (D) reviews any available literature regarding  
17 the experience of students in other states that have delayed school  
18 day start times;

19 (2) prepare an assessment on the effect of delayed  
20 school day start times on the health, safety, and academic  
21 performance of students; and

22 (3) provide recommendations to the agency regarding  
23 the feasibility of establishing a pilot program to test delayed  
24 school day start times.

25 SECTION 4. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2022, the  
26 task force shall deliver a report to the commissioner of education  
27 that includes the findings from the study, a summary of information

1 considered for the purposes of the study, and the recommendations  
2 on the feasibility of a pilot program.

3 SECTION 5. EXPIRATION. The task force is abolished and this  
4 Act expires January 1, 2023.

5 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
6 1, 2021.