

By: Hinojosa

H.B. No. 4273

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reporting requirements by the Texas Education Agency and certain school districts and open-enrollment charter schools regarding student attendance during a declared disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 25, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 25.0875 to read as follows:

Sec. 25.0875. REQUIRED REPORTING OF ATTENDANCE DURING DECLARED DISASTER. (a) In this section, "declared disaster" means:

(1) a disaster declared by the president of the United States;

(2) a state of disaster declared by the governor under Section 418.014, Government Code; or

(3) a local state of disaster declared by the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision under Section 418.108, Government Code.

(b) If the operations or in-person student attendance of a school district or open-enrollment charter school are substantially disrupted as a result of a declared disaster, the district school shall submit a report to the agency in accordance with Subsections (c) and (d).

(c) The report must include the total number, disaggregated by student grade level, gender, race, being enrolled in a special

1 education program, being enrolled in a gifted and talented program,
2 being at risk of dropping out of school, being in foster care,
3 experiencing homelessness, being a dependent of military
4 personnel, having limited English proficiency, or being a migratory
5 child, of:

- 6 (1) students attending in-person;
- 7 (2) students attending remotely; and
- 8 (3) students experiencing chronic absenteeism.

9 (d) If the declared disaster lasts:

10 (1) for a period of less than 90 days, each affected
11 school district or open-enrollment charter school shall submit a
12 report to the agency not later than the 30th day following the
13 termination or expiration of the declared disaster; or

14 (2) for a period of more than 90 days, each affected
15 school district or open-enrollment charter school shall submit a
16 report to the agency every 90 days for the duration of the declared
17 disaster.

18 (e) The agency shall:

19 (1) aggregate the data received from each school
20 district and open-enrollment charter school under this section; and

21 (2) submit a report to the legislature not later than
22 30 days after each required reporting period under Subsection (d).

23 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
24 school year.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
26 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.