

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 257

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to personal leave provided for a public school employee who tests positive for certain diseases.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22.003, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) and amending Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) In addition to all other days of leave provided by this section or by the school district, an employee of a school district who tests positive for a disease that is the basis for a disaster declared by the governor under Section 418.014, Government Code, for all or part of the state is entitled to not less than 14 days of leave for compensation following the positive test result. Days of leave taken under this subsection may not be deducted from accrued personal leave or leave that the employee is entitled to under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Section 2601 et seq.).

(a-2) In addition to all other days of leave provided by this section or by the school district, an employee employed by a school district for the 2021-2022 school year who was also employed by the district for the 2020-2021 school year is entitled to the number of days of leave, not to exceed 14 days, equal to the number of days during the 2020-2021 school year for which the employee used leave due to testing positive for the coronavirus disease

1 (COVID-19). This subsection expires September 1, 2022.

2 (c-1) Any informational handbook a school district provides  
3 to employees in an electronic or paper form or makes available by  
4 posting on the district website must include notification of an  
5 employee's rights under Subsections (a-1) and [Subsection] (b) in  
6 the relevant section of the handbook. Any form used by a school  
7 district through which an employee may request leave under this  
8 section must include disaster leave under Subsection (a-1) and  
9 assault leave under Subsection (b) as options [~~an option~~].

10 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022  
11 school year.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.