

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: Rosenthal

H.B. No. 699

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to public school attendance and promotion requirements for
3 students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe
4 or life-threatening illnesses.

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

6 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Riley's Rule.

7 SECTION 2. Section 25.087(b), Education Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending
10 school for:

11 (1) the following purposes, including travel for those
12 purposes:

13 (A) observing religious holy days;

14 (B) attending a required court appearance;

15 (C) appearing at a governmental office to
16 complete paperwork required in connection with the student's
17 application for United States citizenship;

18 (D) taking part in a United States naturalization
19 oath ceremony;

20 (E) serving as an election clerk; or

21 (F) if the student is in the conservatorship of
22 the Department of Family and Protective Services, participating, as
23 determined and documented by the department, in an activity:

24 (i) ordered by a court under Chapter 262 or

1 263, Family Code, provided that it is not practicable to schedule
2 the participation outside of school hours; or

3 (ii) required under a service plan under
4 Subchapter B, Chapter 263, Family Code; [~~or~~]

5 (2) a temporary absence resulting from an appointment
6 with health care professionals for the student or the student's
7 child if the student commences classes or returns to school on the
8 same day of the appointment; or

9 (3) an absence resulting from a serious or
10 life-threatening illness or related treatment that makes the
11 student's attendance infeasible, if the student or the student's
12 parent or guardian provides a certification from a physician
13 licensed to practice medicine in this state specifying the
14 student's illness and the anticipated period of the student's
15 absence relating to the illness or related treatment.

16 SECTION 3. Section 25.0915(a-3), Education Code, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 (a-3) A school district shall offer additional counseling
19 to a student and may not refer the student to truancy court under
20 this section, Section 25.0951, or any other provision if the school
21 determines that the student's truancy is the result of:

22 (1) pregnancy;

23 (2) being in the state foster program;

24 (3) homelessness; [~~or~~]

25 (4) severe or life-threatening illness or related
26 treatment; or

27 (5) being the principal income earner for the

1 student's family.

2 SECTION 4. Section 25.092, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsection (a-3) to read as follows:

4 (a-3) A student's excused absence under Section
5 25.087(b)(3) may not be considered in determining whether the
6 student has satisfied the attendance requirement under Subsection
7 (a) or (a-1).

8 SECTION 5. Section 28.0211, Education Code, is amended by
9 adding Subsection (q) to read as follows:

10 (q) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a
11 student may not be denied promotion if the school district
12 determines that the student failed to perform satisfactorily on an
13 assessment instrument specified under Subsection (a) due primarily
14 to circumstances that resulted from a serious or life-threatening
15 illness or related treatment that qualifies the student for an
16 excused absence under Section 25.087(b)(3).

17 SECTION 6. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
18 school year.

19 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

ADOPTED

MAY 17 2021

By: Rosenthal/Zaffirini *Latey Law*
Secretary of the Senate
Substitute the following for H.B. No. 699:
By: Jamy Taylor H.B. No. 699
C.S.H.B. No. 699

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to public school attendance requirements for students
3 diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or
4 life-threatening illnesses.

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

6 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Riley's Rule.

7 SECTION 2. Section 25.087(b), Education Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending
10 school for:

11 (1) the following purposes, including travel for those
12 purposes:

13 (A) observing religious holy days;

14 (B) attending a required court appearance;

15 (C) appearing at a governmental office to
16 complete paperwork required in connection with the student's
17 application for United States citizenship;

18 (D) taking part in a United States naturalization
19 oath ceremony;

20 (E) serving as an election clerk; or

21 (F) if the student is in the conservatorship of
22 the Department of Family and Protective Services, participating, as
23 determined and documented by the department, in an activity:

24 (i) ordered by a court under Chapter 262 or

1 263, Family Code, provided that it is not practicable to schedule
2 the participation outside of school hours; or

3 (ii) required under a service plan under
4 Subchapter B, Chapter 263, Family Code; [~~or~~]

5 (2) a temporary absence resulting from an appointment
6 with health care professionals for the student or the student's
7 child if the student commences classes or returns to school on the
8 same day of the appointment; or

9 (3) an absence resulting from a serious or
10 life-threatening illness or related treatment that makes the
11 student's attendance infeasible, if the student or the student's
12 parent or guardian provides a certification from a physician
13 licensed to practice medicine in this state specifying the
14 student's illness and the anticipated period of the student's
15 absence relating to the illness or related treatment.

16 SECTION 3. Section 25.0915(a-3), Education Code, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 (a-3) A school district shall offer additional counseling
19 to a student and may not refer the student to truancy court under
20 this section, Section 25.0951, or any other provision if the school
21 determines that the student's truancy is the result of:

22 (1) pregnancy;

23 (2) being in the state foster program;

24 (3) homelessness; [~~or~~]

25 (4) severe or life-threatening illness or related
26 treatment; or

27 (5) being the principal income earner for the

1 student's family.

2 SECTION 4. Section 25.092, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsection (a-3) to read as follows:

4 (a-3) A student's excused absence under Section
5 25.087(b)(3) may not be considered in determining whether the
6 student has satisfied the attendance requirement under Subsection
7 (a) or (a-1).

8 SECTION 5. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
9 school year.

10 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 18, 2021

TO: Honorable Dade Phelan, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB699 by Rosenthal (Relating to public school attendance requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that the costs associated with the bill's provisions relating to public school attendance requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses could be absorbed using existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, LBO, SL, THO, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 11, 2021

TO: Honorable Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB699 by Rosenthal (relating to public school attendance requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

It is assumed that the costs associated with the bill's provisions relating to public school attendance requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses could be absorbed using existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, THO, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 1, 2021

TO: Honorable Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB699 by Rosenthal (Relating to public school attendance and promotion requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses.), **As Engrossed**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, THO, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 24, 2021

TO: Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Public Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB699 by Rosenthal (relating to public school attendance and promotion requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, AH, THO

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 8, 2021

TO: Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Public Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB699** by Rosenthal (Relating to public school attendance and promotion requirements for students diagnosed with or undergoing related treatment for severe or life-threatening illnesses.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, AH, THo