

By: Jetton

H.B. No. 358

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study and report regarding optimal school district size and academic effectiveness.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The commissioner of education shall conduct a study regarding the optimal school district size to maximize functionality, ensure the efficient use of resources, and produce outstanding student and educational outcomes. In conducting the study, the commissioner shall consider the following factors:

- (1) school district organization and management;
- (2) the resources available to each school district;
- (3) the academic performance of students in each school district; and
- (4) student graduation rates for each school district.

(b) The commissioner of education may seek assistance from relevant agencies and other interested parties in conducting the study under this section.

(c) Not later than December 31, 2024, the commissioner of education shall submit to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over public education a report that includes:

- (1) the results of the study conducted under this section, including any determinations made with regard to an optimal school district size that would promote efficient operation and attainment of state educational goals; and

1 (2) recommendations for legislative or other action.

2 SECTION 2. This Act expires January 1, 2025.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.