

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 1566

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of certain personal leave by school district teachers.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.416 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.416. ELECTION BY TEACHER TO USE UNPAID LEAVE. (a) The board of trustees of a school district shall adopt a policy that provides a classroom teacher employed by the district the option to elect not to take the teacher's paid personal leave concurrently with unpaid leave the teacher is entitled to take under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Section 2601 et seq.) for an absence due to pregnancy or the birth or adoption of a child.

(b) A teacher who elects to take unpaid leave under this section may not take paid personal leave, except in the case of a medical or other emergency, until the 13th week following the date the teacher returns from the unpaid leave.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

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