

By: Lopez of Bexar

H.B. No. 190

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a grant program to provide free or reduced-tuition
prekindergarten classes to certain children.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
amended by adding Section 29.1535 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.1535. FREE AND REDUCED-TUITION PREKINDERGARTEN
GRANT PROGRAM. (a) From money appropriated or otherwise available
for the purpose, the commissioner, in collaboration with the Pre-K
4 SA early childhood initiative, shall establish and administer a
grant program to support school districts, open-enrollment charter
schools, and private schools in providing free or reduced-tuition
prekindergarten classes to eligible children.

(b) A school district, open-enrollment charter school, or
private school shall use money received under the grant program to
provide free or reduced-tuition prekindergarten classes to
eligible children.

(c) A child is eligible to enroll in a prekindergarten class
described by Subsection (b) if the child is at least three years of
age.

(d) To the extent consistent with state and federal law, a
prekindergarten class provided using money received under the grant
program must be operated in accordance with any curriculum and
teaching methods implemented by the Pre-K 4 SA early childhood

1 initiative.

2 (e) Not later than September 1 of each year, the
3 commissioner shall prepare and submit to the legislature a report
4 on the grant program under this section. The report must include:

5 (1) an evaluation of the academic and developmental
6 achievements of students enrolled in a prekindergarten class using
7 money received under the grant program; and

8 (2) any recommendations for legislative or other
9 action.

10 (f) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to
11 establish and administer the grant program under this section.

12 (g) The grant program is abolished and this section expires
13 January 1, 2031.

14 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2026, the
15 commissioner of education shall submit the initial report required
16 by Section 29.1535, Education Code, as added by this Act.

17 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
18 school year.

19 SECTION 4. 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, 2025.