

By: Bucy

H.B. No. 1785

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of a person who is homeless to take the high school equivalency examination.

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

SECTION 1. Section 7.111, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a-1) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a-1) A person who does not have a high school diploma may take the examination in accordance with rules adopted by the board if the person is:

(1) over 17 years of age;

(2) 16 years of age or older and:

(A) is enrolled in a Job Corps training program under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. Section 2801 et seq.), and its subsequent amendments;

(B) a public agency providing supervision of the person or having custody of the person under a court order recommends that the person take the examination; ~~or~~

(C) is enrolled in the Texas Military Department's Seaborne Challenge Corps; or

(D) is a person who is homeless; or

(3) required to take the examination under a court order issued under Section 65.103(a)(3), Family Code.

(a-2) The board may not adopt a rule under Subsection (a-1)

1 requiring a person who is homeless to obtain the consent of the  
2 person's parent or guardian before taking the examination.

3 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026  
4 school year.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.