

Suspending limitations on conference committee  
jurisdiction, S.B. No. 568 (Bettencourt/Buckley)

By: Buckley

H.R. No. 1501

R E S O L U T I O N

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on Senate Bill 568 (relating to special education in public schools, including funding for special education under the Foundation School Program) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 5 of the bill, by amending added Section 29.001(c)(6)(C), Education Code, to read as follows:

(C) appropriately trained personnel are available to students with disabilities who have significant behavioral support needs, including by making behavioral support training available to each paraprofessional or teacher placed in a classroom or other setting that is intended to provide specialized behavioral supports to a student with a disability, as needed or at regular intervals as provided in the student's individualized education program;

Explanation: This change is necessary to clarify to whom behavioral support training must be made available to ensure appropriately trained personnel are available to students with disabilities who have significant behavioral support needs.

1           (2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit  
2 the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the  
3 house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 12 of the  
4 bill, in amended Section 29.008(c), Education Code, to read as  
5 follows:

6 If a [~~residential~~] placement primarily for care or treatment  
7 reasons involves a private [~~residential~~] facility in which the  
8 education program is provided by the school district, the portion  
9 of the costs that includes appropriate education services, as  
10 determined by the school district's admission, review, and  
11 dismissal committee, shall be paid from local, state, and federal  
12 education funds.

13           Explanation: This change is necessary to allow school  
14 districts to pay the cost for certain placements in a private  
15 facility from local funds.

16           (3) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit  
17 the committee to omit text not in disagreement by omitting the  
18 portion of proposed SECTION 24 of the bill that adds Section 29.024,  
19 Education Code. The omitted text reads:

20           Sec. 29.024. GRANT PROGRAM PROVIDING TRAINING IN DYSLEXIA  
21 FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF. (a) From money appropriated or otherwise  
22 available for the purpose, the commissioner shall establish a  
23 program to award grants each school year to school districts and  
24 open-enrollment charter schools to increase local capacity to  
25 appropriately serve students with dyslexia.

26           (b) A school district, including a school district acting  
27 through a district charter issued under Subchapter C, Chapter 12,

1 or an open-enrollment charter school, including a charter school  
2 that primarily serves students with disabilities, as provided under  
3 Section 12.1014, is eligible to apply for a grant under this section  
4 if the district or school submits to the commissioner a proposal on  
5 the use of grant funds that:

6 (1) incorporates evidence-based and research-based  
7 design; and

8 (2) increases local capacity to appropriately serve  
9 students with dyslexia by providing:

10 (A) high-quality training to classroom teachers  
11 and administrators in meeting the needs of students with dyslexia;  
12 or

13 (B) training to intervention staff resulting in  
14 appropriate credentialing related to dyslexia, with priority for  
15 training staff to earn the credentials necessary to become a  
16 licensed dyslexia therapist or certified academic language  
17 therapist.

18 (c) The commissioner shall create an external panel of  
19 stakeholders, including parents of students with disabilities, to  
20 provide assistance in the selection of applications for the award  
21 of grants under this section.

22 (d) A grant awarded to a school district or open-enrollment  
23 charter school under this section is in addition to the Foundation  
24 School Program money that the district or charter school is  
25 otherwise entitled to receive. A grant awarded under this section  
26 may not come out of Foundation School Program money.

27 (e) The commissioner and any grant recipient selected under

this section may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source, person, or group to implement and administer the grant. The commissioner and any grant recipient selected under this section may not require any financial contribution from parents to implement and administer the grant.

(f) A regional education service center may administer grants awarded under this section.

Explanation: This change is necessary to omit language that would authorize the commissioner of education to establish a grant program to provide training in serving students with dyslexia to school district and open-enrollment charter school teachers and staff.

(4) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 27 of the bill, by amending Section 29.042(a), Education Code, to read as follows:

Subject to Subsection (c), the agency shall provide each student approved as provided by this subchapter a grant of not more than \$1,500 to purchase supplemental ~~[special education]~~ services and supplemental ~~[special education]~~ instructional materials.

Explanation: This change is necessary to provide the amount of the grant provided under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code.

(5) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 27 of the bill, by adding Section 29.042(f), Education Code, to read as

1 follows:

2 (f) A regional education service center designated to  
3 administer the program under this subchapter for a school year is  
4 entitled to receive not more than four percent of the amount  
5 appropriated for purposes of making grants under this subchapter  
6 for that school year for the costs of administering the program.

7 Explanation: This change is necessary to clarify the amount  
8 of money a regional education service center may receive for  
9 administering the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29,  
10 Education Code.

11 (6) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit  
12 the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in  
13 proposed SECTION 28 of the bill, in amended Section 29.045,  
14 Education Code, to read as follows:

15 Subject to available funding the agency shall approve each student  
16 who meets the program eligibility criteria established under  
17 Section 29.044 and assign to the student an account maintained  
18 under Section 29.042(b).

19 Explanation: This change is necessary to ensure that the  
20 approval of and assignment of accounts to eligible students under  
21 the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code, are  
22 subject to available funding.

23 (7) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit  
24 the committee to omit text not in disagreement by omitting the  
25 portion of proposed SECTION 63 of the bill that adds Section 48.306,  
26 Education Code. The omitted text reads:

27 Sec. 48.306. PARENT-DIRECTED SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

1 RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT. (a) A student to whom  
2 the agency awards a grant under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, is  
3 entitled to receive an amount of \$1,500 or a greater amount provided  
4 by appropriation.

5 (b) The legislature shall include in the appropriations for  
6 the Foundation School Program state aid sufficient for the agency  
7 to award grants under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, in the amount  
8 provided by this section.

9 (c) A student may receive one grant under Subchapter A-1,  
10 Chapter 29, unless the legislature appropriates money for an  
11 additional grant in the General Appropriations Act.

12 (d) A regional education service center designated to  
13 administer the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, for a  
14 school year is entitled to an amount equal to four percent of each  
15 grant awarded under that subchapter for that school year.

16 (e) Notwithstanding Section 7.057, a determination of the  
17 commissioner under this section is final and may not be appealed.

18 Explanation: This change is necessary to omit language that  
19 would provide an entitlement to a grant under Subchapter A-1,  
20 Chapter 29, Education Code, or to an amount for administering the  
21 program under that subchapter.