

By: King
(Noble)

S.B. No. 784

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the transfer of certain public school students who are children of peace officers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 12A.004(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A local innovation plan may not provide for the exemption of a district designated as a district of innovation from the following provisions of this title:

(1) a state or federal requirement applicable to an open-enrollment charter school operating under Subchapter D, Chapter 12;

(2) Subchapters A, C, D, and E, Chapter 11, except that a district may be exempt from Sections 11.1511(b)(5) and (14) and Section 11.162;

(3) transfers of students who are the children of peace officers under Section 25.0344;

(4) ~~[(3)]~~ state curriculum and graduation requirements adopted under Chapter 28; and

(5) ~~[(4)]~~ academic and financial accountability and sanctions under Chapters 39 and 39A.

SECTION 2. Section 25.0344, Education Code, as added by Chapter 322 (H.B. 1959), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding

Subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

(b) On request of a peace officer who is a parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student, the board of trustees of a school district or the board's designee shall transfer the student to:

(1) another district campus; or

(2) any other ~~[to another]~~ school district in this state, regardless of whether the sending district and the receiving district have entered into ~~[under]~~ an agreement under Section 25.035.

(e) Notwithstanding any other law, both the sending district and the receiving district must approve a transfer under this section without exception.

(f) A school district may not charge a tuition fee under Section 25.038 to a student who transfers to the district under this section.

SECTION 3. Section 12A.004(a), Education Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a local innovation plan adopted or renewed on or after the effective date of this Act. A local innovation plan adopted or renewed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the plan was adopted or renewed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.