

1-1 By: Delisi, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Fraser) H.B. No. 591
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 14, 2003;
1-3 April 15, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Veteran Affairs and Military Installations; May 8, 2003, reported
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 3, Nays 0; May 8, 2003, sent
1-6 to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to public school admission of military personnel and
1-10 dependents under reciprocity agreements between states.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 25.005, Education Code, is amended to
1-13 read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 25.005. RECIPROCITY AGREEMENTS REGARDING MILITARY
1-15 PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS. (a) To facilitate the transfer of
1-16 military personnel and their dependents to and from the public
1-17 schools of this state, the agency shall [~~may~~] pursue reciprocity
1-18 agreements with other states governing the terms of those
1-19 transfers.

1-20 (b) A reciprocity agreement must:

1-21 (1) address procedures for:

1-22 (A) transferring student records;

1-23 (B) [~~(2) address procedures for~~] awarding credit
1-24 for completed course work; and
1-25 (C) permitting a student to satisfy the
1-26 requirements of Section 39.025 through successful performance on
1-27 comparable exit-level assessment instruments administered in
1-28 another state; and

1-29 (2) [~~(3)~~] include appropriate criteria developed by
1-30 the agency.

1-31 SECTION 2. (a) In implementing Section 25.005, Education
1-32 Code, as amended by this Act, the Texas Education Agency shall give
1-33 priority to pursuing reciprocity agreements with Florida, Georgia,
1-34 North Carolina, and Virginia.

1-35 (b) Not later than January 1, 2004, the Texas Education
1-36 Agency shall report the results of its efforts to enter into
1-37 reciprocity agreements in compliance with Section 25.005,
1-38 Education Code, as amended by this Act, to the presiding officers of
1-39 the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations
1-40 and the House of Representatives Committee on Defense Affairs and
1-41 State-Federal Relations. If the agency has been unable to enter
1-42 into a reciprocity agreement with each state identified in
1-43 Subsection (a) of this section by the date of the report, the report
1-44 must include, for each state with which the agency did not enter
1-45 into an agreement:

1-46 (1) a detailed description of the agency's efforts to
1-47 reach an agreement; and

1-48 (2) an explanation of each factor contributing to the
1-49 failure to reach an agreement.

1-50 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-51 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-52 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-53 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-54 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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