

1-1 By: Anderson of McLennan, et al. H.B. No. 639  
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Menéndez)  
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2017;  
 1-4 May 9, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-5 Education; May 16, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-6 Yeas 11, Nays 0; May 16, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to authorizing the purchase of certain insurance coverage  
 1-23 by public schools for the benefit of businesses and students  
 1-24 participating in career and technology programs and providing for  
 1-25 immunity from liability of certain public school students  
 1-26 participating in career and technology programs.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is  
 1-29 amended by adding Sections 29.191 and 29.192 to read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 29.191. ACCIDENT, LIABILITY, AND AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE  
 1-31 COVERAGE. (a) The board of trustees of a school district or the  
 1-32 governing body of an open-enrollment charter school may obtain  
 1-33 accident, liability, or automobile insurance coverage to protect:

1-34 (1) a business or entity that participates with the  
 1-35 district or school to provide district or school students a career  
 1-36 and technology program; and

1-37 (2) a district or school student who participates in a  
 1-38 district or school career and technology program.

1-39 (b) The coverage authorized by this section must be:

1-40 (1) obtained from a reliable insurer authorized to  
 1-41 engage in business in this state; or

1-42 (2) for a district, provided through the district's  
 1-43 self-funded risk pool.

1-44 (c) The amount of coverage a district or school obtains:

1-45 (1) must be reasonable considering the financial  
 1-46 condition of the district or school; and

1-47 (2) may not exceed the amount that is reasonably  
 1-48 necessary in the opinion of, as applicable, the board of trustees of  
 1-49 the district or the governing body of the school.

1-50 (d) If the board of trustees of a district or the governing  
 1-51 body of a school obtains accident, liability, or automobile  
 1-52 insurance coverage under this section, an administrator designated  
 1-53 by the board of trustees of the district or governing body of the  
 1-54 school, as applicable, shall notify the parent or guardian of each  
 1-55 student participating in the career and technology program.

1-56 (e) A district or school may not directly or indirectly  
 1-57 charge a student or the student's parent or guardian for the cost of  
 1-58 providing to the student insurance under this section.

1-59 (f) The failure of any board of trustees of a district or the  
 1-60 governing body of a school to obtain coverage authorized by this  
 1-61 section or to obtain a specific amount of coverage under this

2-1 section may not be construed as placing any legal liability on, as  
2-2 applicable, the district or the district's officers, agents, or  
2-3 employees or the school or the school's officers, agents, or  
2-4 employees.

2-5 Sec. 29.192. IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. A student who  
2-6 participates in a career and technology program approved by a  
2-7 school district or an open-enrollment charter school is entitled to  
2-8 immunity in the same manner provided under Section 22.053 as a  
2-9 volunteer who is serving as a direct service volunteer of a district  
2-10 or school.

2-11 SECTION 2. Section 29.187(f), Education Code, is repealed.

2-12 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018  
2-13 school year.

2-14 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-18 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

2-19 \* \* \* \* \*