

By: Coleman

H. B. No. 1845

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the availability of free prekindergarten programs in
3 public schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 29.153(a-1), (b), and (f), Education
6 Code, are amended to read as follows:

15 (b) A child is eligible for enrollment in a prekindergarten
16 class under this section if the child is:

17 (1) at least three years of age and:

18 (A) [(1)] is unable to speak and comprehend the
19 English language:

20 (B) [~~(2)~~] is educationally disadvantaged;

13 (2) at least four years of age.

14 (f) A child who is eligible for enrollment in a
15 prekindergarten class under Subsection (b)(1)(D) or (E) [~~(b)(4) or~~
16 ~~(5)~~] remains eligible for enrollment if the child's parent leaves
17 the armed forces, or is no longer on active duty, after the child
18 begins a prekindergarten class.

19 SECTION 2. Section 29.1532(c), Education Code, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 (c) A school district that offers prekindergarten classes,
22 including a high quality prekindergarten program class under
23 Subchapter E-1, shall include the following information in the
24 district's Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS)
25 report:

26 (1) demographic information, as determined by the
27 commissioner, on students enrolled in district and campus

1 prekindergarten classes, including the number of students who are
2 eligible for classes under Section 29.153(b)(1) or (f) [~~29.153~~];

3 (2) the numbers of half-day and full-day
4 prekindergarten classes offered by the district and campus;

5 (3) the sources of funding for the prekindergarten
6 classes;

7 (4) the class size and ratio of instructional staff to
8 students for each prekindergarten program class offered by the
9 district and campus;

10 (5) if the district elects to administer an assessment
11 instrument to students enrolled in district and campus
12 prekindergarten program classes, a description and the results of
13 each type of assessment instrument; and

14 (6) curricula used in the district's prekindergarten
15 program classes.

16 SECTION 3. Section 29.166(c), Education Code, is amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (c) A student qualifies for additional funding under
19 Subsection (b) if the student[~~+~~

20 [~~(1) satisfies eligibility requirements under Section~~
21 ~~29.153~~(b), and

22 [~~(2)~~] is four years of age on September 1 of the year
23 the student begins the program.

24 SECTION 4. Section 29.153(d), Education Code, is repealed.

25 SECTION 5. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
26 school year.

27 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect August 1, 2021.