

1-1 By: Menéndez, et al. S.B. No. 1152
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 28, 2017; March 9, 2017,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs &
 1-4 Border Security; April 18, 2017, reported favorably by the
 1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 18, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to excused absences from public school for the purpose of
 1-18 pursuing enlistment in a branch of the armed services of the United
 1-19 States or the Texas National Guard.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by
 1-22 adding Subsections (b-5) and (b-6) and amending Subsection (d) to
 1-23 read as follows:

1-24 (b-5) A school district shall excuse a student who is 17
 1-25 years of age or older from attending school to pursue enlistment in
 1-26 a branch of the armed services of the United States or the Texas
 1-27 National Guard, provided that:

1-28 (1) the district may not excuse for this purpose more
 1-29 than four days of school during the period the student is enrolled
 1-30 in high school; and

1-31 (2) the district verifies the student's activities
 1-32 related to pursuing enlistment in a branch of the armed services or
 1-33 the Texas National Guard.

1-34 (b-6) Each school district shall adopt procedures to verify
 1-35 a student's activities as described by Subsection (b-5).

1-36 (d) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b),
 1-37 (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), or (c) may not be penalized for that
 1-38 absence and shall be counted as if the student attended school for
 1-39 purposes of calculating the average daily attendance of students in
 1-40 the school district. A student whose absence is excused under
 1-41 Subsection (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-4), (b-5), or (c) shall be allowed
 1-42 a reasonable time to make up school work missed on those days. If
 1-43 the student satisfactorily completes the school work, the day of
 1-44 absence shall be counted as a day of compulsory attendance.

1-45 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
 1-46 school year.

1-47 SECTION 3. Not later than October 1, 2017, each school
 1-48 district shall adopt a policy for verification of student
 1-49 activities relating to pursuing military enlistment as required by
 1-50 Section 25.087(b-6), Education Code, as added by this Act.

1-51 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-52 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-53 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-54 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-55 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-56 * * * * *