

- SUBJECT:** Using compensatory funding to pay child care costs for at-risk students
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 6 ayes — Hochberg, Allen, Aycock, Huberty, Shelton, Strama
0 nays
5 absent — Eissler, Dutton, Guillen, T. Smith, Weber
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Monty Exter, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Dwight Harris, Texas-AFT; Ken McCraw, TACS; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA); Lori Moya, Austin ISD; Don Rogers, Texas Rural Education Association; Lauren Rose, Texans Care for Children; Julie Shields, Texas Association of School Boards; Tamara Vannoy, Texas Afterschool Association)

Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code, sec. 29.081 authorizes school districts to provide compensatory, intensive, and accelerated instructional services for students who have not performed satisfactorily on state assessments or who are at risk of dropping out of school. Sec. 29.081(d) specifies characteristics that qualify students as being at risk of dropping out of school and classifies a student who is pregnant or is a parent as one of these students.
- Sec. 29.085 under subch. C authorizes school districts to administer educational and support service programs that provide life skills for student parents. Such a program, among other components such as individual and career counseling, is required to include:
- day care for the students' children on the campus or at a day-care facility located near the campus;
 - transportation for students' children to and from the campus or day-care facility; and
 - student transportation, as deemed appropriate, to and from the campus or day-care facility.

Sec. 42.152 governs the compensatory education allotment, which is a basic allotment distributed to school districts annually for students who are educationally disadvantaged or who live in a residential placement facility in a district other than where their parents reside. The basic allotment is adjusted according to the number of qualifying students and on the weight attributed to each type of qualifying student in a school district.

DIGEST:

HB 818 would amend Education Code, sec. 42.152 to authorize school districts to use compensatory education funds allocated under that provision to:

- provide child-care services or assistance with child-care expenses for students at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by sec. 29.081(d); or
- pay the costs of day care or associated transportation provided through a life skills program in accordance with sec. 29.085.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2011.