

- SUBJECT:** Excluding certain students in juvenile facilities from dropout rates
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Bohac, Deshotel, Dutton, Gooden, K. King, Koop, Meyer, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Julie Pruitt, Harris County Juvenile Probation; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Robert McLain, Channing ISD; Addie Gomez, Texans for Quality Public Charter Schools; Courtney Boswell and Molly Weiner, Texas Aspires; Grover Campbell, Texas Association of School Boards; Justin Yancy, Texas Business Leadership Council; Veronica Garcia, Texas Charter Schools Association; Paige Williams, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; Amanda List, Texas League of Community Charter Schools; Ellen Arnold, Texas PTA; Tami Keeling, Victoria ISD and TASB)
- Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Danielle King)
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kara Belew and Shannon Housson, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Students held in juvenile detention facilities may be served by a local school district or charter school. Education Code, sec. 39.053(g-1) requires the commissioner of education to exclude certain students from dropout and completion performance indicators for the public school accountability system. Among the excluded students are those who are in a school district exclusively as a function of being detained at a county detention facility but are otherwise not students of the district in which the facility is located. Some have suggested that charter schools serving students held in juvenile detention facilities should receive the same exemptions for computation of dropout and completion rates that currently exist for districts.

DIGEST: HB 3075 would exclude from the computation of dropout and completion rates students detained at a county pre-adjudication or post-adjudication juvenile detention facility if the students were:

- in the school district exclusively as a function of being detained at a the facility but otherwise were not students of the district in which the facility was located; or
- provided services by an open-enrollment charter school exclusively as a result of having been detained at the facility.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2017. It would apply beginning with the 2017-18 school year.

NOTES: A companion bill, SB 727 by Garcia, was referred to the Senate Education Committee on February 21.