

SUBJECT: Considering certain students as students at risk of dropping out of school

COMMITTEE: Public Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 11 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, M. González,  
K. King, Meyer, Talarico, VanDeaver

0 nays

2 absent — Dutton, Sanford

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 29 — 30-1 (Nichols)

WITNESSES: *On House companion bill, HB 1746:*  
For — Angela Thomas, PACE Youth Programs; Reginald Smith, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition; Levatta Levels; (*Registered but did not testify*: Nicholas Hudson, ACLU of Texas; Jim Pitts, CAN Academies; Turner Ashlea, Houston ISD; Jane McFarland, League of Women Voters of Texas; Will Francis; National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter; Mia Hutchens, Texas Association of Business; Barry Haenisch, Texas Association of Community Schools; Ellen Stone, Texas Appleseed; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators; Tracy Ginsburg, Texas Association of School Business Officials; Josette Saxton, Texans Care for Children; Linda Litzinger, Texas Parent to Parent; Kyle Ward, Texas PTA; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; Kyle Piccola, The Arc of Texas; Shirley Bonton)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Eric Marin and Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency)

BACKGROUND: Education Code sec. 29.081 requires school districts to provide accelerated instruction to students enrolled in the district who are at risk of dropping out of school.

Concerns have been raised that more needs to be done to ensure that students who come in contact with the criminal justice system do not drop out of school.

**DIGEST:**

SB 1746 would include students who had been incarcerated or had a parent or guardian who had been incarcerated in a penal institution during the student's lifetime in the list of students considered at risk of dropping out of school.

The 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, 2019.