

SUBJECT: Allowing certain individuals to request paper assessments for students

COMMITTEE: Public Education — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 12 ayes — Buckley, Allen, Allison, Cunningham, Cody Harris, Harrison, Hefner, Hinojosa, K. King, Longoria, Schaefer, Talarico

0 nays

1 absent — Dutton

WITNESSES: For — Ana Rush, Del Valle ISD; Theresa Trevino, Texans Advocating for Meaningful Student Assessment; Carrie Griffith, Texas State Teachers Association (*Registered, but did not testify*: Tricia Cave, ATPE - Association of Texas Professional Educators; Steven Aleman, Disability Rights Texas; Will Holleman, Raise Your Hand Texas; Barry Haenisch, Texas Association of Community Schools; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators; Andrea Chevalier, Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education; Mark Terry, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance; Idona Griffith; Susan Stewart)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Eric Marin, Justin Porter, Kristin McGuire, Iris Tian, Texas Education Agency)

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that a student's parent, guardian, or teacher should be able to request a paper test for their student to avoid certain technical difficulties that can occur when a student completes a standardized test online.

DIGEST: CSHB 1225 would allow a school district to administer certain required assessment instruments in paper format to any student whose parent, guardian, or teacher in the applicable area requested it. A request would have to be submitted to the school district by December 1 of the school

year.

The number of students enrolled at a school district who were administered an assessment instrument in paper format for any single administration could not exceed 3 percent of the number of students enrolled in the district. On receipt of more requests than permitted, the district would be required to accept the requests in the order received until the maximum number was reached.

The results of an assessment instrument administered in paper format could not be considered in evaluating school district or campus performance.

The bill would apply beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

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, 2023.

NOTES:

According to the Legislative Budget Board, CSHB 1225 would have a negative impact of about \$3.3 million in general revenue related funds in fiscal 2024-25.