SECTION 3. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

(b) Section 1 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2010.

Passed by the House on April 22, 2009: Yeas 127, Nays 19, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 27, 2009: Yeas 29, Nays 1.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective September 1, 2009 except as provided by § 3(b).

CHAPTER 627

H.B. No. 1321

AN ACT

relating to the discharge of a jury under certain circumstances in a criminal case.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 36.29(c), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(c) After the charge of the court is read to the jury, if a juror [any one of them] becomes so sick as to prevent the continuance of the juror's [his] duty and an alternate juror is not available, or if any accident of circumstance occurs to prevent the jury from [their] being kept together under circumstances under which the law or the instructions of the court requires that the jury [they] be kept together, the jury shall be discharged, except that on agreement on the record by the defendant, the defendant's counsel, and the attorney representing the state 11 members of a jury may render a verdict and, if punishment is to be assessed by the jury, assess punishment. If a verdict is rendered by less than the whole number of the jury, each member of the jury shall sign the verdict.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a trial that commences on or after the effective date of this Act. A trial that commenced before the effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect on the date the trial commenced, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on April 30, 2009: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 27, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective September 1, 2009.

CHAPTER 628

H.B. No. 1322

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an online resource for teachers of students with special health needs.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter J, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.463 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.463. RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS. The agency, in coordination with the Health and Human Services Commission, shall establish and maintain an Internet website to provide resources for teachers who teach students with special health needs. The agency shall include on the website information about: