(3) the actor is in a motor vehicle, as defined by Section 501.002, Transportation Code, and:

(A) knowingly discharges a firearm at or in the direction of a habitation, building, or vehicle;

(B) is reckless as to whether the habitation, building, or vehicle is occupied; and

(C) in discharging the firearm, causes serious bodily injury to any person.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was committed before that date.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on May 13, 2009: Yeas 136, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 27, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective September 1, 2009.

CHAPTER 595
H.B. No. 192
AN ACT
relating to the purposes for which a student's absence from school must be excused.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.087, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-3) to read as follows:

(b) A school district shall excuse a student from attending school for:

(1) the following purposes, including travel for those purposes:

(A) observing religious holy days; [or]

(B) attending a required court appearance;

(C) appearing at a governmental office to complete paperwork required in connection with the student's application for United States citizenship; or

(D) taking part in a United States naturalization oath ceremony; or

(2) a temporary absence resulting from health care professionals if that student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment.

(b-3) A temporary absence for purposes of Subsection (b)(2) includes the temporary absence of a student diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder on the day of the student's appointment with a health care practitioner, as described by Section 1355.015(b), Insurance Code, to receive a generally recognized service for persons with autism spectrum disorder, including applied behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on May 7, 2009: Yeas 142, Nays 3, 1 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 192 on May 29, 2009: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.
CHAPTER 596
H.B. No. 200

AN ACT
relating to continuing education requirements for public school principals.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:
SECTION 1. Section 21.054(b), Education Code, is repealed.
SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.
SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on May 7, 2009: Yeas 94, Nays 48, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 25, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2009.
Effective September 1, 2009.

CHAPTER 597
H.B. No. 269

AN ACT
relating to course credit for certain students at a public institution of higher education.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:
SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.3042 to read as follows:
Sec. 51.3042. AWARD OF COURSE CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE. (a) In this section, “institution of higher education” has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.
(b) An institution of higher education shall award to an undergraduate student who is admitted to the institution, including a student who is readmitted under Section 51.9242, course credit for all physical education courses required by the institution for an undergraduate degree and for additional semester credit hours, not to exceed 12, that may be applied to satisfy any elective course requirements for the student’s degree program for courses outside the student’s major or minor if the student:
(1) graduated from a public or private high school accredited by a generally recognized accrediting organization or from a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense; and
(2) is an honorably discharged former member of the armed forces of the United States who:
(A) completed at least two years of service in the armed forces; or
(B) was discharged because of a disability.
(c) This section does not prohibit an institution of higher education from awarding additional course credit for a student’s military service as the institution considers appropriate.