(2) the district adopts:
   (A) a policy to determine when an absence will be excused for this purpose; and
   (B) a procedure to verify the student’s visit at the institution of higher education.

SECTION 2. Section 25.087(c), Education Code, as added by Chapter 479 (H.B. 2455), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007, is amended to read as follows:
   (c) A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b) or (b-2) may not be penalized for that absence and shall be counted as if the student attended school for purposes of calculating the average daily attendance of students in the school district. A student whose absence is excused under Subsection (b) or (b-2) shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily completes the school work, the day of absence shall be counted as a day of compulsory attendance.

SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.

SECTION 4. 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 April 15, 2009: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 21, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.


CHAPTER 456

H.B. No. 2547

AN ACT
relating to the use of a description of employment in determining the safety and appropriateness of a return to employment by an injured employee.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 408, Labor Code, is amended by adding Section 408.0221 to read as follows:

Sec. 408.0221. REQUEST FOR DESCRIPTION OF EMPLOYMENT. (a) This section applies only to an employee of an employer who has 10 or more employees.

(b) To facilitate an injured employee’s return to employment as soon as it is considered safe and appropriate by the injured employee’s treating doctor, the treating doctor may request that the injured employee’s employer provide the treating doctor with the information described by Subsection (d) on the form adopted under that subsection.

(c) Information provided to a treating doctor under Subsection (b) does not constitute:
   (1) a request by the employer that the injured employee return to the employment;
   (2) an offer of employment by the employer for the injured employee to return to employment; or
   (3) an admission of the compensability of the injury of the employee.

(d) The commissioner shall prescribe a form to provide information from an employer to a treating doctor concerning the functions and physical responsibilities of an injured employee’s job. To the extent possible, the form prescribed under this subsection shall be one page, use a check box format as appropriate, and be compatible with electronic mail. The form must include:
   (1) the name and address of the employer and the contact information and availability of the individual representing the employer who has knowledge of the injured employee’s job;
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(2) the scope of the injured employee's employment, including any specific tasks, job duties, or work activities that the injured employee was required to perform at the time the employee sustained the injury; and

(3) an area for additional comments or information by the employer or individual representing the employer concerning:

(A) the injured employee's job; or

(B) the availability, if any, of other jobs that the employer may have that the employer would like the treating doctor to consider in determining whether an injured employee is able to return to work.

c) The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section and to facilitate communication between the employer and the treating doctor regarding return-to-work opportunities.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on May 7, 2009: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 26, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective September 1, 2009.

CHAPTER 457

H.B. No. 2548

AN ACT
relating to membership of certain advisory bodies to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 755.011(b) and (c), Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The board is composed of the following members appointed by the presiding officer of the commission, with the commission's approval:

(1) three members representing persons who own or use boilers in this state;

(2) three members representing companies that insure boilers in this state;

(3) one member representing boiler manufacturers or installers;

(4) one member representing organizations that repair or alter boilers in this state; [and]

(5) one member representing a labor union; and

(6) two public members.

(c) All members except the members appointed under Subsection (b)(6) [A member] must have experience with boilers. To the extent possible, at least four members should be professional engineers registered in this state.

SECTION 2. Section 1152.102, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a) The council is composed of seven members appointed by the presiding officer of the commission, with the commission's approval.

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), each person appointed for membership on the council must:

(1) be a registered senior property tax consultant;

(2) be a member of a nonprofit and voluntary trade association: