

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 246  
By: Nelson  
Education  
2-10-97  
As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas law does not require the cause for excusing a child from school, resulting in the temporary absence of the child, to be written and signed by the parent of the child. Parents are concerned that schools and students will be allowed to determine excused absences without parental consent, leading to parents not knowing where their children are while school is in session. This bill requires the reason for a student's absence to be stated in writing and signed by the parent of the child.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 246 requires the reason for the absence of a student excused from school to be stated in writing and signed by the parent of the child.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 25.087(a), Education Code, to authorize a teacher, principal, or superintendent of a school to temporarily excuse a child, based on acceptable causes, from a school in which the child is enrolled. Requires the reason for the absence to be stated in writing and signed by the parent or parental person of the child.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies beginning with the 1997-1998 school year.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.  
Effective date: upon passage.