

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R12460 CAS-F

H.B. 907
By: Siebert (Wentworth)
Education
5/13/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires a person who is 17 years old to attend school until age 18, and allows 18, 19, and 20 year-olds to attend school voluntarily. A student who is 18 years old or older is eligible for Social Security Survivor Benefits. The Social Security Administration (administration) requires proof of enrollment from a student, but the administration does not scrutinize the student's attendance. Voluntary students who enroll in school only to obtain these benefits often do not attend regularly, and may engage in activities on campus that are distracting to other students. H.B. 907 allows a person to voluntarily enroll in school or voluntarily attend school after the person's 18th birthday, but requires the person to comply with attendance requirements.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 907 allows a person over 18 years of age to attend school, but requires the person to comply with certain attendance requirements.

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 25.085, Education Code, by adding Subsection (e), as follows:

(e) Requires a person who voluntarily enrolls in school or voluntarily attends school after the person's 18th birthday to attend school each school day for the entire period of the program of instruction offered. Authorizes a school district to revoke for the remainder of the school year the enrollment of a person who has more than five unexcused absences in a semester. Provides that a person whose enrollment is revoked may be considered an unauthorized person on school district grounds for purpose of Section 37.107, Education Code.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 25.087(a), Education Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 3. Makes application of this Act prospective beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.