

CHAPTER 155

H.B. No. 1050

AN ACT

relating to educational programs for gifted and talented students.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.652, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.652. ESTABLISHMENT. *Each school district shall adopt a process identifying gifted and talented students in the school district's population and, later than the 1990-1991 school year, shall establish a program for those students at each grade level. A [Any] school district [or two or more school districts jointly] establish a cooperative program with one or more other districts [for gifted and talented students].*

SECTION 2. Section 21.654, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.654. PROGRAM APPROVAL. A school district or a combination of school districts ~~[electing to establish a program for gifted and talented students]~~ shall submit the program for approval to the Central Education Agency in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education. The agency shall approve any program that satisfies requirements for a program established by board rule. *The requirements established by the board must consider unique local needs of school districts and must allow school districts to develop and implement alternatives that provide a high level of services but are appropriate to local needs.*

SECTION 3. Section 16.159(f), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(f) After each district has received allotted funds for this program, the State Board of Education may use up to \$500,000 ~~[10 percent]~~ of the funds allocated under this section for programs such as Future Problem Solving Olympics of the Mind, and Academic Decathlon, as long as these funds are used to train personnel and provide program services. *To be eligible for funding under this section, a program must be determined by the State Board of Education to provide services that are effective and consistent with the state plan for gifted and talented education.*

SECTION 4. The State Board of Education shall review the limit provided by Section 16.159(c), Education Code, on the number of students for which a school district may receive funding under the gifted and talented student allotment. The board shall include in its report to the 71st Legislature recommendations concerning the elimination or modification of that limit for the purpose of providing the highest level of services to the greatest number of eligible students, considering the funds available for the program

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987.

SECTION 6. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed by the House on April 7, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 12, 1987, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved May 21, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.