

Chapter 1141

H.B. No. 357

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of the children of certain first responders for free prekindergarten programs in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 29.153(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A child is eligible for enrollment in a prekindergarten class under this section if the child is at least three years of age and:

(1) is unable to speak and comprehend the English language;

(2) is educationally disadvantaged;

(3) is a homeless child, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, regardless of the residence of the child, of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control of the child;

(4) is the child of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority;

(5) is the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty; [~~or~~]

1           (6) is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the  
2 Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary  
3 hearing held as provided by Section 262.201, Family Code; or

4           (7) is the child of a person eligible for the Star of  
5 Texas Award as:

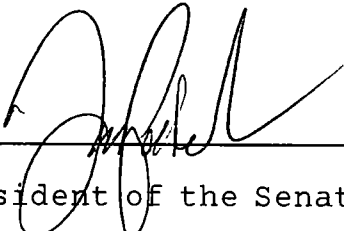
6                   (A) a peace officer under Section 3106.002,  
7 Government Code;

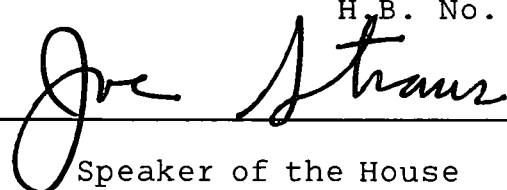
8                   (B) a firefighter under Section 3106.003,  
9 Government Code; or

10                   (C) an emergency medical first responder under  
11 Section 3106.004, Government Code.


12           SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018  
13 school year.

14           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

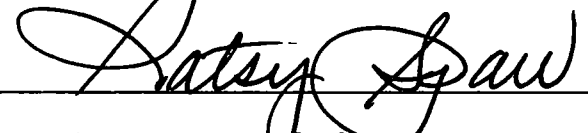
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

H.B. No. 357  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 357 was passed by the House on April 20, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 131, Nays 13, 1 present, not voting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House


I certify that H.B. No. 357 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 6-14-2017  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
3 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 15 2017  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 20, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Eddie Lucio, Jr., Chair, Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB357** by Huberty (Relating to the eligibility of the children of certain first responders for free prekindergarten programs in public schools.), **As Engrossed**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend Section 29.153(b), Education Code, to expand the eligibility criteria for enrollment in prekindergarten to include a child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award as a peace officer, firefighter, or emergency medical first responder.

This analysis assumes any additional cost to the Foundation School Program (FSP) resulting from the implementation of the provisions of the legislation would be minimal due to the number of individuals per year who are nominated for the Star of Texas Award. However, changes to the number of individuals nominated for the Star of Texas Award would result in additional eligible prekindergarten students and additional cost to the FSP.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** UP, JGA, THo, AM, AW, AG

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 14, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Huberty, Chair, House Committee on Public Education

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB357** by Huberty (Relating to the eligibility of the children of certain first responders for free prekindergarten programs in public schools.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

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