

JRC  
File

Chapter 949

S.B. No. 1843

1                                AN ACT  
2 relating to providing an opportunity for public high school  
3 students in grades 10 through 12 to take the Armed Services  
4 Vocational Aptitude Battery test or an alternative vocational  
5 aptitude test.

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

7                SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 29, Education Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 29.9015 to read as follows:

9                Sec. 29.9015. ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY  
10 TEST. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (d) or (e), each school  
11 year each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall  
12 provide students in grades 10 through 12 an opportunity to take the  
13 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test and consult with a  
14 military recruiter.

15                (b) The test under Subsection (a) must be scheduled:  
16                                (1) during normal school hours; and  
17                                (2) to optimize student participation, at a time that  
18 limits conflicts with extracurricular activities.

19                (c) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school  
20 shall provide each student in grades 10 through 12 and the student's  
21 parent or person standing in parental relation to the student a  
22 notice of the date, time, and location of the scheduled  
23 administration of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery  
24 test.

1        (d) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may  
2 elect not to provide the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery  
3 test only if the district or school provides an alternative test  
4 that:

5            (1) assesses a student's aptitude for success in a  
6 career field other than a career field that requires postsecondary  
7 education;

8            (2) is free to administer;

9            (3) requires minimal training and support of district  
10 or school faculty and staff to administer the test; and

11            (4) provides the student with a professional  
12 interpretation of the test results that allows the student to:

13            (A) explore occupations that are consistent with  
14 the student's interests and skills; and

15            (B) develop strategies to attain the student's  
16 career goals.

17        (e) This subsection applies only to a school district,  
18 open-enrollment charter school, or high school that, before  
19 September 1, 2017, entered into a contract under which a vocational  
20 aptitude test that does not comply with the requirements for an  
21 alternative test under Subsection (d) is provided to students in  
22 grades 10 through 12. A school district, open-enrollment charter  
23 school, or high school subject to this subsection may elect not to  
24 provide the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test for the  
25 term of the contract. On the expiration of the contract term, the  
26 exemption provided by this subsection is not applicable.

27        (f) Not later than August 1 of each year, the agency shall

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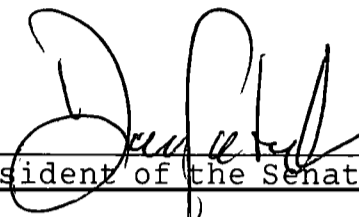
S.B. No. 1843

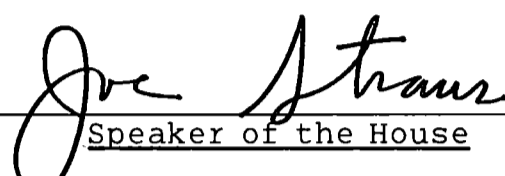
1 publish a list of school districts and open-enrollment charter  
2 schools that elected under Subsection (d) or (e) not to provide the  
3 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test during the previous  
4 school year.

5 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018  
6 school year.

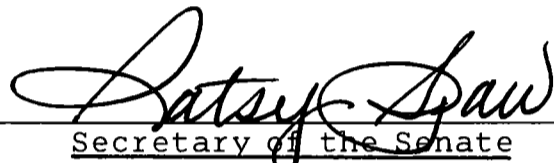
7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September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

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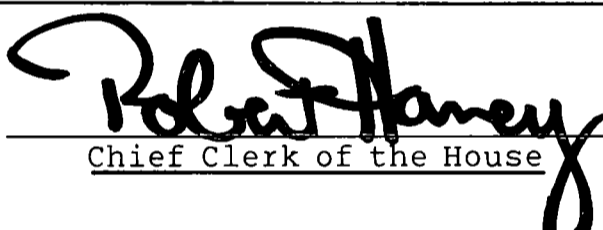
  
President of the Senate

  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1843 passed the Senate on May 4, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0. \_\_\_\_\_

  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1843 passed the House on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, two present not voting. \_\_\_\_\_


  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

6-12-2017  
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**

**April 20, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Donna Campbell, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border Security

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

**IN RE:** SB1843 by Campbell (Relating to providing an opportunity for public high school students in grades 10 through 12 to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test or an alternative vocational aptitude test.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

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

This bill would amend the Education Code to require all school districts and charter schools to provide students in grades 10 through 12 an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test and consult with a military recruiter. The bill would specify certain elements related to scheduling and providing the ASVAB test. The bill would allow districts and charter schools to opt out of providing students an opportunity to take the ASVAB under certain circumstances. The bill would require TEA to report annually the list of school districts and charter schools that opted not to provide the ASVAB to its students by August 1. The bill would take effect immediately if passed within necessary voting margins, or September 1, 2017, and applies beginning in school year 2017-18.

The Texas Education Agency indicates that any costs associated with the provisions of the bill could be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

School districts and open-enrollment charter schools that do not offer the ASVAB test could incur some costs related to offering the test within school hours, including costs for transportation, proctors, space, and scheduling. Additionally, school districts and charter schools electing not to provide the ASVAB may incur costs to administer an alternative test. Costs will vary depending on the current practices at each district and charter.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** UP, AW, LBO, AM

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

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

**April 4, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Donna Campbell, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border Security

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

**IN RE:** SB1843 by Campbell (Relating to providing an opportunity for public high school students in grades 10 through 12 to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test or an alternative vocational aptitude test.), **As Introduced**

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

This bill would amend the Education Code to require all school districts and charter schools to provide students in grades 10 through 12 an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test and consult with a military recruiter. The bill would specify certain elements related to scheduling and providing the ASVAB test. The bill would allow districts and charter schools to opt out of providing students an opportunity to take the ASVAB only if they administer a similar career-readiness exam instead. The bill would require TEA to report annually the list of school districts and charter schools that opted not to provide the ASVAB to its students by August 1. The bill would take effect immediately if passed within necessary voting margins, or September 1, 2017, and applies beginning in school year 2017-18.

The Texas Education Agency indicates that any costs associated with the provisions of the bill could be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

School districts and open-enrollment charter schools that do not offer the ASVAB test could incur some costs related to offering the test within school hours, including costs for transportation, proctors, space, and scheduling. Additionally, school districts and charter schools electing not to provide the ASVAB may incur costs to administer an alternative test. Costs will vary depending on the current practices at each district and charter.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** UP, LBO, AM, AW