

SUBJECT: Barring open-enrollment charter schools from operating on Memorial Day

COMMITTEE: Public Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver

0 nays

1 absent — Dutton

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Andrea Chevalier, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators; Grover Campbell, Texas Association of School Boards; Kyle Ward, Texas PTA; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Eric Marin and Heather Mauze, Texas Education Agency)

DIGEST: HB 109 would prohibit open-enrollment charter schools from operating on Memorial Day. If a school would be required to provide instruction on Memorial Day to compensate for minutes of instruction lost due to a calamitous event, the education commissioner would be required to approve a reduction in the required minutes of instruction for that school for the school year. The bill would apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.

SUPPORTERS SAY: HB 109 would recognize the importance of Memorial Day by prohibiting open-enrollment charter schools from providing instruction on that day.

The rule is already in place for school districts, and the bill would extend the provision to cover open-enrollment charter schools.

OPPONENTS
SAY:

No concerns identified.