

Senate Education Committee

Senator Mike Folmer Chairman

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BILL SUMMARY House Bill 1013, Printer's No. 3883 Prime Sponsor: Representative Gillen

SYNOPSIS:

House Bill 1013 amends the Public School Code to provide for home education programs.

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1013 amends the Public School Code to provide for home education programs. It requires high school diplomas awarded by the home education program supervisor or by an approved diploma-granting organization to be considered as diplomas granted by the Commonwealth, as long as all of the necessary graduation requirements are met. The diploma must be on a standardized form and diplomas awarded by the program supervisor must be signed by the student's 12th grade evaluator. PDE shall establish eligibility criteria for approved diploma-granting organizations and maintain the approved list on its website.

By June 30th, the home education program supervisor is required to annually submit to the superintendent a qualified evaluator's certification that an appropriate education is occurring. If no certification is received, the superintendent shall send a letter notifying the supervisor to submit certification within 10 days.

If at any time, a superintendent has a reasonable belief that an appropriate education is not occurring, or that the home education program is out of compliance, he may require a certification from a qualified evaluator within 30 days. If tests were not administered upon receiving a superintendent's certification request, the supervisor shall submit the test results and other documentation to the evaluator at the conclusion of the school year. If certification is not submitted, the school board shall provide for a hearing. During this time, the home education student will not be required to immediately enroll in a public or non-public school.

Effective: Immediately.

AMENDMENT A09537 TO HB1013:

Amendment A09537 makes technical changes but also clarifies that should a superintendent have a reasonable belief that an appropriate home education is not occurring or that the program is out of compliance, the superintendent must explain in writing the basis for the reasonable belief.

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