SENATE BILL 2, 89TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

THE SENATE PLAN FOR EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

QUALIFIED EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES:

ESAs may be used for:

1. tuition or fees at accredited schools and colleges;
2. workforce programs;
3. credentialed tutors;
4. books, instructional supplies, and uniforms;
5. cocurriculars related to classroom instruction;
6. academic tests;
7. therapy and technology for disabled students; and
8. transportation;
9. public school classes and services

ESA FUNDING:

- If a student enrolls in a school accredited by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission, the student receives an ESA of $10,000.
- If the participant attends an accredited private school and is a child with a disability, an ESA in the amount of $11,500 will be granted.
- All participating students are entitled to $2,000 to use on qualifying educational expenses.

INTRODUCTION

ESAs empower parents to customize education to their child's unique needs. State law limits spending to qualified educational expenses and parents decide how funds are spent.

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

Texas children from PK through grade 12 are eligible to apply for an ESA. If there are more applicants than funds can support, up to 80% of available positions will be assigned by lottery to public school students with a household income of less than $160,750 for a family of four or students with a disability. The remaining positions will be open to all students.

PARTICIPATING EDUCATORS

Any accredited school or non-profit college can opt in to serve ESA students. Active or retired teachers from accredited K-12 schools or non-profit colleges can tutor ESA students. Licensed therapists can serve ESA students. Parents may also pay out of pocket for qualified educational expenses and be reimbursed.

LEGAL PROTECTIONS

ESAs are completely opt-in. Recipients of funds cannot be considered state actors. Limitations and requirements that are contrary to religious or constitutional values cannot be imposed. Strong legal protections ensure parents and educators can make the best decisions for children: participants will not be required to modify their values, instruction, curriculum, admission or employment policies. No federal funds will be used.

ADMINISTRATOR

The Comptroller would administer the program with the help of up to five Educational Assistance Organizations (EAOs). Interested educators would apply to the Comptroller; students would apply to an EAO. EAOs would help participating families find options in their community and manage account transactions.

REVENUE SOURCE

ESAs would be funded by state revenue. No federal funds nor funds from Texas' public school accounts (ex. FSP) are used.

ACCOUNTABILITY

With ESAs, parents and teachers collaborate directly to provide children the instruction and support they need, when they need it. This is effective accountability.

ESAs provide financial safeguards and transparency: funds are held in a program account, may only be used for qualified educational expenses, and the program would be independently audited. Spending on non-qualified educational items would result in suspension.

EMPOWER PARENTS NOW!

1. Scan: QR code,
2. Contact your Representative,
3. Ask: empower parents with universal ESAs!

ESAs provide academic transparency: certified educational assistance organizatiosn will be required to publish an annual report regarding: student enrollment and waitlists; family satisfaction; assessment results; financial impact; and college, career, and military readiness.

AFC American Federation for Children
Agudath Israel of America
We Work for Families Families Empowered
The Libre Initiative
Americans for Prosperity Texas
CLT
edCHOICE
The Miles Foundation Investments in Education
ACE scholarships
Texas Public Policy Foundation
ExcelinEd in Action
Texans for Free Enterprise
The Heritage Foundation
Parents Defending Education
AFPI America First Policy Institute
America First Works
Heritage Action for America
TCCRI
CatholicVote
Texas Federation of Republican Women
Texas Homeschool Coalition
OGWA Oil & Gas Workers Association
yes. every kid.
MOMS for America
Liberty for the Kids
Cicero Institute
American Conservative Union CPAC
Hispanic Contractors Association de Texas
Texas Values txvalues.org
Best. Building Education for Students Together
DWA Digital Workforce Academy
Convention of States Action
Freedom Coalition
TXPC Texas Pastor Council
Independent Women's Forum
ALEC American Legislative Exchange Council