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Amendment Floor Report for HB 21 - Friday, August 4, 2017

Author	Analysis	Recommendation
Bernal 853394	This amendment would increase the basic allotment from \$5,140 to \$5,350. This would update the basic allotment to match what's appropriated in HB 30 for this bill. Any increase to the basic allotment is good for our students and their districts. This amendment would increase public school finance equity for all Texans.	<u>Favorable</u>
Coleman 853388	Under current law, public schools and open enrollment charter schools are not required to employ a full-time nurse, nor are they required to inform parents about the lack of these employees at the schools. These employees may just be part time, and only present at the campus for part of the regular instructional day. This amendment seeks to enhance transparency by requiring schools to inform parents if the school does not employ a full time, or the equivalent of a full time, school nurse. The school could meet this notification requirement by posting the notice on the school's website. This amendment does not mandate that schools hire a full-time nurse. The bill does tie additional funding to requiring that the school make a good faith effort to provide the notification bilingually to parents whose primary language is not English.	<u>Favorable</u>
Coleman 853389	Under current law, public schools and open enrollment charter schools are not required to employ a full-time nurse, counselor, or librarian; nor are they required to inform parents about the lack of these employees at the schools. These employees may just be part time, and only present at the campus for part of the regular instructional day. This amendment seeks to enhance transparency by requiring schools to inform parents if the school does not employ a full time, or the equivalent of a full time, school nurse, counselor, or librarian. The school could meet this notification requirement by posting the notice on the school's website. This amendment does not mandate that schools hire a full-time school counselor, librarian, or nurse. The bill does tie additional funding to requiring that the school make a good faith effort to provide the notification bilingually to parents whose primary language is not English.	<u>Favorable</u>
Frank 853391	This amendment seeks to add Home-School Students to participate in the University Interscholastic League (UIL) Activities. With some exception, this bill would require public schools to allow home-schooled students a chance to participate in UIL activities like students enrolled in the ISD. The Board of each school district would require schools to allow home-schooled students to participate in UIL activities and wouldn't allow for the schools to charge a fee for participation. If a district is found to be in violation of this provision they won't receive state funds. The students are subject to all the rules of the district and	<u>Unfavorable</u>

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	their guardians must keep the child in good academic standing and comply with required academic standards to participate in UIL activities. This amendment doesn't allow for any other jurisdiction over the homeschool student by the ISD. The schools wouldn't have to change their curriculum or any requirements to allow for the participation of the homeschool student in the UIL activities. This amendment has little to do with school finance and does nothing to help establish a more equitable public school finance system.	
Giddings 853400	This amendment adds prekindergarten to Section. 25.112(a) that sets the standard for how many students can be enrolled in a class.	<u>Favorable</u>
Krause 853401	This would allow for a study on changes to school start dates and changes to the public-school calendar. It would require the study to include what administrative costs may be lowered and the effects on the private sector resulting from the aforementioned changes to the public-school calendar.	<u>Will of the House</u>
Krause 853402	This amendment would create a Texas Commission on Public School Finance. It details who would make-up the commission and how they members would be appointed. The Commission would be charged with making recommendations and report their findings to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house by Dec. 1, 2018. This is one of the charges set forth by the governor and SB 16 by Senator Larry Taylor.	<u>Favorable</u>
Springer 853397	The sparsity adjustment was created to provide some additional funding to address ISD's with extremely sparse student populations and beyond that of the small size adjustment. There are ISD's with less students and who's entire district resides in a single county. Currently, these ISD's don't meet the standards used by the state to qualify for the sparsity adjustment. This amendment seeks to remedy that by including districts within a single county and have less than the standard number of students to qualify for the adjustment. Currently, if the district offers K-12 they would need at least 130 students, K-8 districts would need 75 students, and K-6 would need 60 students.	<u>Will of the House</u>
Swanson 853403	This amendment requires the Comptroller's office to study alternative methods of taxation with the intent that eventually the state will abolish ad valorem taxes. It also repeals the entire Tax Code and stops the state from imposing any ad valorem taxes. Proposing an elimination of taxes takes away from public schools is a distraction from the severity of our school finance system.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Swanson 853404	This amendment requires the Comptroller's office to study alternative methods of taxation with the intent that eventually the state will abolish ad valorem taxes. Any proposal to eliminate taxes from public schools is a distraction from the severity of our school finance system.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Uresti 853393	This amendment would require the Texas Education Commissioner to reduce the basic allotment for ISD's that fail to provide transportation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special education students who meet the criteria outlined in the amendment • 90% of more of eligible students 	<u>Favorable</u>



	The amendment also provides alternatives to comply with this provision by providing bus passes for the student. It also includes a waiver program that ISD's and charters can apply and dependent on their circumstances.	
VanDeaver 853390	This amendment would increase the basic allotment from \$5,140 to \$5,350. This would update the basic allotment to match what's appropriated in HB 30 for this bill. Any increase to the basic allotment is good for our students and their districts. This amendment would increase public school finance equity for all Texans.	<u>Favorable</u>

