

HB 390 -- PURPLE STAR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Griffith

This bill provides that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will designate a school district as a "Purple Star School District" if the school district applies for the designation using a standardized form to be designed and published by the Department, and qualifies for the designation under this bill.

To qualify for designation, a school district must:

- (1) Designate a staff member as a military liaison assigned to identify military-connected students enrolled in the school district; serve as the point of contact between the school district and military-connected students and their families; determine appropriate school district services available to military-connected students; and assisting in the coordination of school district programs relevant to military-connected students;
- (2) Maintain on the school district website an easily accessible webpage that includes resources for military-connected students and their families. The webpage must include information about relocating and transferring records to the school district; enrolling and registering in the school district; academic planning, course sequencing, and advanced classes available; counseling and other support services available; and post the school district's military liaison along with his or her duties;
- (3) Maintain a transition program, led by students when appropriate, that assists military-connected students in transitioning to the school district;
- (4) Offer professional development for teachers and staff members on issues related to military-connected students; and
- (5) Pass an official resolution on behalf of the school district expressing support for military-connected students and their families; recognize a "month of the military child" or a "military family month" with relevant events hosted by the school district; or partner with a local military installation to provide opportunities for active-duty military members as specified in the bill.