

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 9
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed July 9, 2021; July 9, 2021, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;
1-4 July 13, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 4,
1-5 Nays 0; July 13, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			

1-13 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-14 AN ACT

1-15 relating to requiring public schools to provide instruction and
1-16 materials and adopt policies relating to the prevention of child
1-17 abuse, family violence, and dating violence.

1-18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-19 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Christine Blubaugh
1-20 Act.

1-21 SECTION 2. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by
1-22 adding Subsections (u), (u-1), (u-2), and (u-3) to read as follows:

1-23 (u) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules requiring
1-24 students to receive instruction on the prevention of child abuse,
1-25 family violence, and dating violence at least once in middle or
1-26 junior high school and at least once in high school. The
1-27 instruction must include information on:

1-28 (1) the dating violence policy adopted by the
1-29 student's school district under Section 37.0831;

1-30 (2) the prevalence of dating violence and the
1-31 recognition of abuse warning signs;

1-32 (3) the procedures for reporting violence or abuse;
1-33 and

1-34 (4) educational materials or resources available to
1-35 students under Section 37.0831(c).

1-36 (u-1) Before each school year, a school district shall
1-37 provide written notice as described by Subsection (u-2) to a parent
1-38 of each student enrolled in the district who will receive:

1-39 (1) the instruction required by Subsection (u); or

1-40 (2) any other instruction required by state law
1-41 relating to the prevention of child abuse, family violence, and
1-42 dating violence.

1-43 (u-2) The written notice required by Subsection (u-1) must
1-44 include:

1-45 (1) a statement that the district will provide
1-46 instruction to the parent's student relating to the prevention of
1-47 child abuse, family violence, and dating violence;

1-48 (2) a description of:

1-49 (A) the curriculum materials that will be used in
1-50 providing instruction to the parent's student relating to the
1-51 prevention of child abuse, family violence, and dating violence;
1-52 and

1-53 (B) the educational materials and resources
1-54 described by Section 37.0831(c); and

1-55 (3) a statement of the parent's right to:

1-56 (A) review the materials and resources described
1-57 by Subdivision (2); and

1-58 (B) remove the student from instruction relating
1-59 to the prevention of child abuse, family violence, and dating
1-60 violence without subjecting the student to any disciplinary action,
1-61 academic penalty, or other sanction imposed by the district or the

2-1 student's school.

2-2 (u-3) If a school district does not comply with the
2-3 requirements of Subsections (u-1) and (u-2), a parent of a student
2-4 enrolled in the district may file a complaint in accordance with the
2-5 district's grievance procedure adopted as required by Section
2-6 26.011.

2-7 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 37.0831, Education Code,
2-8 is amended to read as follows:

2-9 Sec. 37.0831. DATING VIOLENCE POLICIES; EDUCATIONAL
2-10 MATERIALS AND RESOURCES.

2-11 SECTION 4. Section 37.0831, Education Code, is amended by
2-12 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as
2-13 follows:

2-14 (b) A dating violence policy must:

2-15 (1) include:

2-16 (A) a definition of dating violence that includes
2-17 the intentional use of physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse
2-18 by a person to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another
2-19 person in a dating relationship, as defined by Section 71.0021,
2-20 Family Code;

2-21 (B) a clear statement that dating violence is not
2-22 tolerated at school;

2-23 (C) reporting procedures and guidelines for
2-24 students who are victims of dating violence; and

2-25 (D) information regarding the instruction on the
2-26 prevention of dating violence required under Section 28.002(u); and

2-27 (2) address safety planning, enforcement of
2-28 protective orders, school-based alternatives to protective orders,
2-29 training for teachers and administrators at each district campus
2-30 that instructs students in grade six or higher, counseling for
2-31 affected students, and awareness education for students and
2-32 parents.

2-33 (c) To the extent possible, a school district shall make
2-34 available to students:

2-35 (1) age-appropriate educational materials that
2-36 include information on the dangers of dating violence; and

2-37 (2) resources to students seeking help.

2-38 SECTION 5. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
2-39 school year.

2-40 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-41 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-42 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-43 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-44 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
2-45 legislative session.

2-46 * * * * *