

By: Thierry

H.B. No. 2527

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a highly contagious communicable disease health and safety plan prepared by a school district.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 38, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 38.044 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.044. HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS COMMUNICABLE DISEASE HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN. (a) In this section:

(1) "Communicable disease" has the meaning assigned by Section 81.003, Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Highly contagious communicable disease" means a communicable disease that creates a substantial risk of public exposure because of the disease's high level of contagion or the method by which the disease is transmitted.

(b) Each school district shall prepare and maintain a health and safety plan for preventing the spread of a highly contagious communicable disease at school district campuses. The health and safety plan must include provisions for, if appropriate to prevent the spread of the disease:

(1) providing hand washing schedules for students and school personnel;

(2) requiring temperature checks for students and school personnel;

(3) requiring classrooms to be arranged to provide for

1 physical separation between students' desks based on social
2 distancing recommendations by local health officials;

3 (4) including sanitation protocols for campus
4 facilities;

5 (5) maintaining an inventory of personal protection
6 equipment and cleaning supplies;

7 (6) notifying students, parents, and school personnel
8 if a member of the school community receives a positive test result
9 for a highly contagious communicable disease;

10 (7) including protocols for handling a positive test
11 result among members of the school community; and

12 (8) including a list of community and school health
13 centers and resources available to members of the school community.

14 (c) Not later than the beginning of each school year, each
15 school district shall:

16 (1) review and, if necessary, revise the health and
17 safety plan prepared under Subsection (b); and

18 (2) submit the district's health and safety plan to the
19 agency.

20 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
21 of this Act but not later than the beginning of the 2021-2022 school
22 year, each school district shall prepare a highly contagious
23 communicable disease health and safety plan and submit the
24 district's plan to the Texas Education Agency as required by
25 Section 38.044, Education Code, as added by this Act.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
27 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.