

By: Bernal

H.B. No. 316

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to social work services in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.905 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.905. SOCIAL WORK SERVICES. (a) In this section, "social work services" means services specialized to assist students and families and designed to alleviate barriers to learning, connect the home, the community, and the school, advocate for the best interest and academic success of students, strengthen relationships, and assist with basic and psychosocial needs.

(b) A social worker may provide social work services to students and families in a school or district.

(c) A social worker shall collaborate with school administrators and other school professionals in order to enhance students' learning environments.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.