

By: Talarico

H.B. No. 2588

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the permissible uses of the school safety allotment and
3 the creation of a mental health allotment under the Foundation
4 School Program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 48.115(b), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (b) Funds allocated under this section must be used to
9 improve school safety and security, including costs associated
10 with:

11 (1) securing school facilities, including:

12 (A) improvements to school infrastructure;

13 (B) the use or installation of physical barriers;

14 and

15 (C) the purchase and maintenance of:

16 (i) security cameras or other security
17 equipment; and

18 (ii) technology, including communications
19 systems or devices, that facilitates communication and information
20 sharing between students, school personnel, and first responders in
21 an emergency;

22 (2) providing security for the district, including:

23 (A) employing school district peace officers,
24 private security officers, and school marshals; and

1 (B) collaborating with local law enforcement
2 agencies, such as entering into a memorandum of understanding for
3 the assignment of school resource officers to schools in the
4 district; and

5 (3) school safety and security training and planning,
6 including:

7 (A) active shooter and emergency response
8 training;

9 (B) prevention and treatment programs relating
10 to addressing adverse childhood experiences; and

11 (C) the prevention, identification, and
12 management of emergencies and threats, using evidence-based,
13 effective prevention practices and including the establishment of
14 [~~+~~

15 [~~(i) providing licensed counselors, social~~
16 ~~workers, and individuals trained in restorative discipline and~~
17 ~~restorative justice practices,~~

18 [~~(ii) providing mental health personnel and~~
19 ~~support,~~

20 [~~(iii) providing behavioral health~~
21 ~~services,~~

22 [~~(iv) establishing] threat detection and~~
23 reporting systems [~~, and~~

24 [~~(v) developing and implementing programs~~
25 ~~focused on restorative justice practices, culturally relevant~~
26 ~~instruction, and providing mental health support, and~~

27 [~~(4) providing programs related to suicide prevention,~~

1 ~~intervention, and postvention].~~

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 48, Education Code, is
3 amended by adding Section 48.117 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 48.117. MENTAL HEALTH ALLOTMENT. (a) A school
5 district with an enrollment less than 1,000 students is entitled to
6 an annual allotment of \$100,000; and

7 (b) a school district with an enrollment greater than 1,000
8 students is entitled to an annual allotment of \$100 per enrolled
9 student as provided by appropriation to support mental health
10 services at the district.

11 (c) Funds allocated under this section:

12 (1) must be used to develop or enhance a comprehensive
13 school mental health system that, through the implementation of
14 programs, practices, and procedures in accordance with Section
15 38.351, provides a tiered array of supports and services in the
16 educational setting that contribute to:

17 (A) a positive school climate;

18 (B) the development of skills related to managing
19 emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and
20 responsible decision-making;

21 (C) the learning and well-being of students with
22 or at risk of mental health or substance use conditions;

23 (D) family and community engagement;

24 (E) reduced exclusionary discipline practices;

25 and

26 (F) staff wellness; and

27 (2) may be used to pay for costs associated with:

1 (A) the salary of school personnel responsible
2 for planning, coordinating, delivering, or monitoring supports and
3 services described by Subdivision (1);

4 (B) training school personnel regarding
5 effective practices and district and campus procedures to support
6 student mental health;

7 (C) a contract-based collaborative effort or
8 partnership with one or more local community programs, agencies, or
9 providers; and

10 (D) developing and implementing programs focused
11 on restorative justice practices; and

12 (3) must be administered by licensed counselors,
13 social workers, and individuals trained to provide mental health
14 support and behavioral health services.

15 (d) Funds allocated for purposes of this section may not be
16 used to supplant any other funds that may be provided for the same
17 purpose.

18 (e) Not later than June 1 of each year and in accordance with
19 commissioner rule, each school district shall submit to the
20 commissioner information regarding the outcomes and expenditures
21 related to funds allocated to the district under this section.

22 (f) Not later than September 1 of each year, the
23 commissioner shall publish a report regarding the use of funds
24 allocated under this section during the preceding school year,
25 including information regarding the programs, personnel, and
26 resources implemented, employed, or purchased by school districts
27 using the funds and other purposes for which the funds were used.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.