

By: Jetton

H.B. No. 3142

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a counseling certification incentive program for school nurses by the Texas Education Agency.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.010. COUNSELING CERTIFICATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

(a) From funds appropriated or otherwise available for the purpose, the agency shall establish and administer a program to provide salary bonuses to eligible school nurses employed by school districts who complete counseling certifications related to addressing student mental health needs.

(b) The commissioner by rule shall establish eligibility criteria to receive a salary bonus under this section.

(c) The agency may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source for the purpose of this section.

(d) The commissioner shall adopt rules to establish and administer the incentive program under this section.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Education Agency shall establish the counseling certification incentive program under Section 33.010, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

H.B. No. 3142

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