

By: Lalani

H.B. No. 3631

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a requirement that public institutions of higher  
3 education provide certain information regarding mental health  
4 services to entering students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 51.9194, Education Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.9194. REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR ENTERING STUDENTS  
9 REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES. (a) In  
10 this section, "institution of higher education" has the meaning  
11 assigned by Section 61.003.

12 (b) An institution of higher education [~~A general academic~~  
13 ~~teaching institution~~] shall provide to each entering [~~full-time~~  
14 undergraduate, graduate, or professional student, including each  
15 [~~full-time~~] undergraduate, graduate, or professional student who  
16 transfers to the institution, information about:

17 (1) available mental health and suicide prevention  
18 services offered by the institution or by any associated  
19 organizations or programs; and

20 (2) early warning signs that are often present in and  
21 appropriate intervention for a person who may be considering  
22 suicide.

23 (c) [(b)] The information required under this section:

24 (1) may be provided through:

- 1 (A) a live presentation; or  
2 (B) a format that allows for student interaction,  
3 such as an online program or video; [~~and~~]  
4 (2) may not be provided in a paper format only; and  
5 (3) must include a campus map identifying any location  
6 at which mental health services are provided to students on campus  
7 and information regarding how to access the services.

8 (d) If an institution of higher education provides a tour  
9 during an on-campus orientation for entering students, the tour  
10 must identify at least one location described by Subsection (c)(3)  
11 that is available for use by all students of the institution.

12 SECTION 2. Section 51.9194, Education Code, as amended by  
13 this Act, applies beginning with entering students at public  
14 institutions of higher education for the 2023 fall semester.

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