

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.B. No. 4756

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of community-based learning centers to serve public school students.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.915 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.915. COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING CENTERS. (a) In this section, "center" means a community-based learning center established under Subsection (b).

(b) The agency shall establish, in collaboration with faith-based nonprofit organizations, a program for the development and operation of community-based learning centers in various school districts to provide students who qualify for compensatory education, as determined by the commissioner, with access to:

(1) technology;

(2) tutoring services;

(3) mentoring services;

(4) social and emotional support;

(5) outdoor activities;

(6) art;

(7) sports; and

(8) individually designed services and supports that may include treatment services, personal support services, or any other support necessary to improve academic and social outcomes for

1 a student, as determined by a center.

2 (c) The agency shall adopt minimum training and skills
3 requirements that each individual providing services through the
4 center must satisfy.

5 (d) From funds appropriated for the purpose, the agency
6 shall pay the costs for developing and operating a center. The
7 agency shall actively seek federal grants or funds to pay costs
8 associated with the establishment and operation of each center.

9 (e) The agency by rule shall establish a procedure for
10 distributing funds to a school district or other appropriate entity
11 approved by the agency to establish and operate or contract for the
12 operation of a center.

13 (f) In addition to money appropriated by the legislature,
14 the agency may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source
15 for establishing the program.

16 (g) The agency may adopt rules as necessary to implement
17 this section, including rules regarding an application process and
18 eligibility criteria to develop and operate a center.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.