

By: West

S.B. No. 683

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the authorization by a school district or
3 open-enrollment charter school for a person to carry or possess a
4 weapon on school premises for purposes of safety and security.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 37, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 37.0814 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 37.0814. SCHOOL GUARDIANS. (a) In this section,
9 "school guardian" means a person who, pursuant to the written
10 regulations or written authorization of a school district or
11 open-enrollment charter school under Section 46.03(a)(1)(A), Penal
12 Code, is authorized to carry or possess a specified weapon for the
13 purpose of providing safety and security on the physical premises
14 of a school, any grounds or building on which an activity sponsored
15 by a school is being conducted, or a passenger transportation
16 vehicle of a school.

17 (b) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
18 that has adopted written regulations or written authorization
19 allowing for school guardians shall, not later than the third
20 business day after the date of adoption, provide written
21 notification of the district's or school's decision to use school
22 guardians to:

23 (1) the sheriff of each county in which a school
24 building is located;

1 (2) the police chief of each municipality in which a
2 school building is located;

3 (3) the public safety director of the Department of
4 Public Safety; and

5 (4) the commissioner of the agency.

6 (c) Not later than five business days before the date of
7 implementation of written regulations or written authorization
8 allowing for school guardians, a school district or open-enrollment
9 charter school shall provide to each entity described by Subsection
10 (b) a written notification that includes the following information:

11 (1) the identity of each school guardian;

12 (2) the campus at which each school guardian is
13 primarily located;

14 (3) the classroom or approximate location at which
15 each school guardian may be regularly found during the school day;
16 and

17 (4) the types of weapons, including the type of
18 caliber, that the district or school has authorized at district or
19 school campuses.

20 (d) Not later than five business days after a school
21 district or open-enrollment charter school makes changes to the
22 district's or school's written regulations or written authorization
23 allowing for school guardians, the district or school shall provide
24 to each entity described by Subsection (b) a written notification
25 of the changes to the regulations or authorization, including the
26 persons authorized as school guardians.

27 (e) A notification required under this section must be

1 provided:

2 (1) in person;

3 (2) by electronic means; or

4 (3) by certified mail, return receipt requested.

5 (f) Information reported under this section is confidential
6 and is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government
7 Code, by a school district, an open-enrollment charter school, or
8 an entity described by Subsection (b).

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