

By: Creighton

S.B. No. 838

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools providing panic alert devices in classrooms.

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

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Alyssa's Law.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 37, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 37.117 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.117. PANIC ALERT DEVICE. (a) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall provide each classroom in the district or school with a panic alert device that allows for immediate contact with district or school emergency services or emergency services agencies, law enforcement agencies, health departments, and fire departments.

(b) A panic alert device provided by a school district or open-enrollment charter school under this section does not satisfy the requirement under Section 37.108(a)(2) for the district or school to ensure employees have classroom access to a telephone or another electronic communication device.

(c) To comply with this section, a school district or open-enrollment charter school may:

(1) use funds provided to the district or school through the school safety allotment under Section 48.115 or other available funds; and

(2) use the district's or school's customary

1 procurement process.

2 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
3 school year.

4 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.