

By: LaMantia

S.B. No. 2304

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing information regarding the Texas Driving with Disability Program to certain public school students and in the curriculum of driver education courses and driving safety courses.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.0113 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.0113. DRIVING WITH DISABILITY PROGRAM INFORMATION.

(a) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall provide information regarding the Texas Driving with Disability Program to:

(1) students who have a health condition or disability that may impede effective communication with a peace officer and:

(A) who receive special education services under Subchapter A; or

(B) who are covered by Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794); and

(2) the parents of students described by Subdivision (1).

(b) The information described under Subsection (a) shall be provided to each student who is 16 years of age or older and annually until the earlier of the student's:

(1) graduation from high school; or

(2) 21st birthday.

1 (c) The agency shall collaborate with the Department of
2 Public Safety, the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, and the
3 Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities to develop the
4 information materials to be provided under Subsection (a). The
5 materials:

6 (1) must include information regarding a person's
7 option to voluntarily list any health condition or disability that
8 may impede the person's communication with a peace officer on a
9 person's vehicle registration information in accordance with
10 Section 502.061, Transportation Code, or application for an
11 original license under Section 521.142, Transportation Code; and

12 (2) may be provided with any transition planning
13 materials provided under this subchapter.

14 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 1001, Education Code, is
15 amended by adding Section 1001.10161 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 1001.10161. DRIVING WITH DISABILITY PROGRAM
17 INFORMATION. The commission by rule shall require that information
18 relating to the Texas Driving with Disability Program be included
19 in the curriculum of each driver education and driving safety
20 course.

21 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than May 1, 2024, the Texas
22 Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt the rules
23 required by Section 1001.10161, Education Code, as added by this
24 Act.

25 (b) Not later than September 1, 2024, each provider of a
26 driver education course or a driving safety course shall certify to
27 the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation that the course

1 curriculum has been updated to include the information required by
2 Section 1001.10161, Education Code, as added by this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024
4 school year.

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