

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.B. No. 1759

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the duties of a public school counselor.

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

4 SECTION 1. Sections 33.006(a) and (b), Education Code, are  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The primary responsibility of a school counselor is to  
7 counsel students to fully develop each student's academic, career,  
8 personal, ~~and~~ social, and emotional abilities.

9 (b) In addition to a school counselor's responsibility  
10 under Subsection (a), the school counselor shall:

11 (1) participate in planning, implementing, and  
12 evaluating a comprehensive developmental school counseling  
13 ~~[guidance]~~ program to serve all students and to address the special  
14 needs of students:

15 (A) who are at risk of dropping out of school,  
16 becoming substance abusers, participating in gang activity, or  
17 committing suicide;

18 (B) who are at risk of:

19 (i) choosing an unhealthy or inappropriate  
20 solution to a problem; or

21 (ii) engaging in harmful behavior toward  
22 themselves or others;

23 (C) who are in need of modified instructional  
24 strategies; or

1            (D) [~~(C)~~] who are gifted and talented, with  
2 emphasis on identifying and serving gifted and talented students  
3 who are educationally disadvantaged;

4            (2) consult with a student's parent or guardian and  
5 make referrals as appropriate in consultation with the student's  
6 parent or guardian;

7            (3) consult with school staff, parents, and other  
8 community members to help them increase the effectiveness of  
9 student education and promote student success;

10           (4) coordinate people and resources in the school,  
11 home, and community;

12           (5) with the assistance of school staff, interpret  
13 standardized test results and other assessment data that help a  
14 student make educational and career plans;

15           (6) deliver classroom guidance activities or serve as  
16 a consultant to teachers conducting lessons based on the school's  
17 guidance curriculum; and

18           (7) serve as an impartial, nonreporting resource for  
19 interpersonal conflicts and discord involving two or more students,  
20 including accusations of bullying under Section [37.0832](#).

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

23           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
25 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.