

By: West, et al.

H.B. No. 854

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of public schools and libraries for certain funds.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. INTERNET ACCESS

Sec. 32.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Internet safety policy" means a policy that addresses:

(A) measures designed to restrict access by minors to obscene material on the Internet;

(B) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;

(C) unauthorized access and other unlawful activities by minors on-line; and

(D) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

(2) "Obscene" has the meaning assigned by Section 43.21, Penal Code.

Sec. 32.152. LIMITATION ON CERTAIN FUNDS. A public school that provides a computer used to access the Internet is not eligible

1 for a loan or grant under Subchapter C, Chapter 57, Utilities Code,  
2 unless the school adopts and implements an Internet safety policy.

3 SECTION 2. Subchapter I, Chapter 441, Government Code, is  
4 amended by adding Section 441.1385 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 441.1385. LIMITATION ON CERTAIN FUNDS. (a) In this  
6 section:

7 (1) "Internet safety policy" means a policy that  
8 addresses:

9 (A) measures designed to restrict access by  
10 minors to obscene material on the Internet;

11 (B) the safety and security of minors when using  
12 electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic  
13 communications;

14 (C) unauthorized access and other unlawful  
15 activities by minors on-line; and

16 (D) unauthorized disclosure, use, and  
17 dissemination of personal identification information regarding  
18 minors.

19 (2) "Obscene" has the meaning assigned by Section  
20 43.21, Penal Code.

21 (b) A public library that provides a computer with Internet  
22 access to the public is not eligible for a loan or grant under  
23 Subchapter C, Chapter 57, Utilities Code, unless the public library  
24 adopts and implements an Internet safety policy.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.