

AN ACT

relating to mentoring services programs for at-risk students in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.089 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.089. MENTORING SERVICES PROGRAM. (a) Each school district may provide a mentoring services program to students at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by Section 29.081.

(b) The commissioner, in consultation with the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives, by rule shall determine accountability standards under this section for a school district providing a mentoring services program using funds allocated under Section 42.152.

(c) The board of trustees of the district shall obtain the consent of a student's parent or guardian before allowing the student to participate in the program.

(d) The board of trustees of the district may arrange for any public or nonprofit community-based organization to come to the district's schools and implement the program.

SECTION 2. Section 42.152, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), funds allocated under this section may be used to fund a district's mentoring services

1 program under Section 29.089.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 16 passed the Senate on April 8, 2003, by a viva-voce vote; May 29, 2003, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 30, 2003, House granted request of the Senate; June 1, 2003, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 16 passed the House, with amendments, on May 26, 2003, by a non-record vote; May 30, 2003, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; June 1, 2003, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor