

Amend CSSB 8 (committee printing) by adding the following appropriately lettered part to Article 2 of the bill and relettering the subsequent parts of Article 2 accordingly:

PART __. SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS

SECTION 2__.01. Section 33.006, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) In accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, the board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy that requires a counselor to spend not more than 10 percent of the counselor's total work time on duties that are not components of a counseling or guidance program developed under Section 33.005. For purposes of this subsection, time spent in administering assessment instruments or providing other assistance in connection with assessment instruments, except time spent in interpreting data from assessment instruments, is not considered time spent on counseling or guidance. Each school in the district shall implement the policy. A copy of the policy shall be maintained in the office of each school in the district and made available on request during regular school hours to district employees, parents of district students, and the public.

SECTION 2__.02. Section 39.076, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-4) to read as follows:

(a-4) Before an investigation, the commissioner shall request that the district scheduled for the investigation assess the district's compliance with the policy adopted under Section 33.006(c) and provide a written copy of the assessment to the investigators on or before the date specified by the commissioner. As part of each investigation, the investigators shall interview a percentage of district counselors determined by the commissioner to assess the district's compliance with the policy adopted under Section 33.006(c). The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this subsection.

SECTION 2__.03. (a) Each school district shall implement a policy adopted under Section 33.006(c), Education Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the 2006-2007 school year.

(b) Section 39.076(a-4), Education Code, as added by this Act, applies beginning with the 2006-2007 school year.