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H.B. No. 1609

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Communities In Schools program.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 33.154 and 33.155, Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33.154. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER [~~STATE DIRECTOR~~]. (a) The commissioner [~~state director~~] shall:

(1) coordinate the efforts of the Communities In Schools program with other social service organizations and agencies and with public school personnel to provide services to students who are at risk of dropping out of school or engaging in delinquent conduct, including students who are in family conflict or emotional crisis;

(2) set standards for the Communities In Schools program and establish state performance goals, objectives, and measures for the program, including performance goals, objectives, and measures that consider improvement in student:

(A) behavior;

(B) academic achievement; and

(C) promotion, graduation, retention, and dropout rates;

(3) obtain information to determine accomplishment of state performance goals, objectives, and measures;

(4) promote and market the program in communities in

1 which the program is not established;

2 (5) help communities that want to participate in the
3 program establish a local funding base; ~~and~~

4 (6) provide training and technical assistance for
5 participating communities and programs; and

6 (7) adopt policies concerning:

7 (A) the responsibility of the agency in
8 encouraging local businesses to participate in local Communities In
9 Schools programs;

10 (B) the responsibility of the agency in obtaining
11 information from participating school districts;

12 (C) the use of federal or state funds available
13 to the agency for programs of this nature; and

14 (D) any other areas concerning the program
15 identified by the commissioner.

16 (b) The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement the
17 policies described by Subsection (a)(7) and shall annually update
18 the rules.

19 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this subchapter, if
20 the commissioner determines that a program consistently fails to
21 achieve the performance goals, objectives, and measures
22 established by the commissioner under Subsection (a)(2), the
23 commissioner may withhold funding from that program and require the
24 program to compete through a competitive bidding process to receive
25 funding to participate in the program.

26 Sec. 33.155. [~~DEPARTMENT~~] COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITIES IN
27 SCHOOLS, INC. [~~MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.~~ (a)] The agency[~~7~~

1 ~~the department,~~] and Communities In Schools, Inc. shall work
2 together to maximize the effectiveness of the Communities In
3 Schools program.

4 SECTION 2. Section 42.152, Education Code, is amended by
5 adding Subsection (u) to read as follows:

6 (u) From the total amount of funds appropriated for
7 allotments under this section, the commissioner shall, each fiscal
8 year, withhold an amount to be determined by the commissioner, but
9 not less than \$30 million for prekindergarten through high school
10 programs under Subchapter E, Chapter 33, and distribute that amount
11 as provided by Section 33.156. After deducting the amount withheld
12 under this subsection from the total amount appropriated for the
13 allotment under Subsection (a), the commissioner shall reduce each
14 district's tier one allotments in the same manner described for a
15 reduction in allotments under Section 42.253 and shall allocate
16 funds to each district accordingly.

17 SECTION 3. Sections 33.151(1), 33.153, and 33.155(b) and
18 (c), Education Code, are repealed.

19 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.