

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.B. No. 603  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 13, 2007;  
1-3 February 27, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Education; April 11, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;  
1-6 April 11, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 603 By: Van de Putte

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to staff development requirements in public schools.  
1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
1-12 SECTION 1. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by  
1-13 amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to  
1-14 read as follows:

1-15 (d) The staff development ~~may~~:  
1-16 (1) may include training in:  
1-17 (A) technology;  
1-18 (B) conflict resolution; and  
1-19 (C) discipline strategies, including classroom  
1-20 management, district discipline policies, and the student code of  
1-21 conduct adopted under Section 37.001 and Chapter 37; and  
1-22 (2) subject to Subsection (e), must include  
1-23 research-based training that:  
1-24 (A) relates to instruction of students with  
1-25 disabilities; and  
1-26 (B) is designed for educators who work primarily  
1-27 outside the area of special education.

1-28 (e) A school district is required to provide the training  
1-29 described by Subsection (d)(2) to an educator who works primarily  
1-30 outside the area of special education only on the recommendation of  
1-31 the admission, review, and dismissal committee for a student  
1-32 receiving instruction from the educator.

1-33 (f) In developing the training required by Subsection  
1-34 (d)(2), a school district must consult with persons with expertise  
1-35 in research-based practices for students with disabilities.  
1-36 Persons who may be consulted under this subsection include  
1-37 colleges, universities, private and nonprofit organizations,  
1-38 regional education service centers, and any other persons  
1-39 identified as qualified by the district. This subsection applies  
1-40 to all training required by Subsection (d)(2), regardless of  
1-41 whether the training is provided at the campus or district level.

1-42 (g) The staff development may ~~, and~~  
1-43 ~~(3)~~ include instruction as to what is permissible  
1-44 under law, including opinions of the United States Supreme Court  
1-45 and guidance from the United States Department of Education,  
1-46 regarding prayer in public school.

1-47 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2007-2008  
1-48 school year.

1-49 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-50 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-51 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-52 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-53 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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