

By: Gallegos

S.B. No. 1342

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an autism spectrum disorders specialist certificate for public school teachers.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.0486 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.0486. AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION. (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training to work with other teachers and to work with and improve educational services for students with autism spectrum disorders, the board shall establish an autism spectrum disorders specialist certificate.

(b) The board shall issue an autism spectrum disorders specialist certificate to each eligible person.

(c) To be eligible for an autism spectrum disorders specialist certificate, a person must:

(1) satisfy the training requirements, including the minimum academic requirements, prescribed by the board;

(2) satisfactorily demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to implement research-based specialized instructional strategies and research-based effective behavior management techniques for students with autism spectrum disorders;
and

(3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the

1 board.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.