

By: Uresti

S.B. No. 1456

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to training for public school educators in the prevention of child abuse.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.044, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 21.044. EDUCATOR PREPARATION. (a) The board shall propose rules establishing the training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program. The board shall specify the minimum academic qualifications required for a certificate.

(b) Any minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) that require a person to possess a bachelor's degree must also require that the person receive, as part of the curriculum for that degree, instruction in child abuse awareness and prevention.

SECTION 2. Section 38.004, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (c) and amending Subsection (b) to read as follows:

(a-1) The agency shall maintain on the agency Internet website a list of links to websites that provide information regarding the prevention of child abuse.

(b) Each school district shall provide:

(1) child abuse antivictimization programs in

1 elementary and secondary schools; and

2 (2) annual training in child abuse prevention for
3 teachers employed by the district.

4 (c) The training required by Subsection (b)(2) may be
5 provided as part of a school district's annual teacher orientation.

6 SECTION 3. Section 21.044(b), Education Code, as added by
7 this Act, applies beginning with persons who commence enrollment in
8 an institution of higher education during the 2007-2008 academic
9 year.

10 SECTION 4. Section 38.004(b), Education Code, as amended by
11 this Act, applies beginning with the 2007-2008 school year.

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