

By: Deshotel, Eissler

H.B. No. 3076

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a parenting and paternity awareness program used in the  
3 health curriculum for public schools.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (p) and adding Subsections (p-1), (p-2), and  
7 (p-3) to read as follows:

8 (p) The State Board of Education, in conjunction with the  
9 office of the attorney general, shall develop a parenting and  
10 paternity awareness program that a school district shall use in the  
11 district's middle, junior high, and high school health  
12 curriculum. The program must:

13 (1) address parenting skills and responsibilities,  
14 including child support and other legal rights and responsibilities  
15 that come with parenthood;

16 (2) address relationship skills, including money  
17 management, communication skills, and marriage preparation; and

18 (3) in district middle, junior high, or high schools  
19 that do not have a family violence prevention program, address  
20 skills relating to the prevention of family violence.

21 (p-1) A school district shall provide high school health  
22 credit to a student enrolled in a middle or junior high school who  
23 successfully completes a course that includes the program developed  
24 under Subsection (p).

1        (p-2) A school district may develop or adopt research-based  
2 local programs and curriculum materials for use in conjunction with  
3 the program developed under Subsection (p). Local programs and  
4 curriculum materials may provide instruction in:

5            (1) child development;

6            (2) parenting skills, including child abuse and  
7 neglect prevention; and

8            (3) assertiveness skills to prevent teenage  
9 pregnancy, abusive relationships, and family violence.

10        (p-3) The agency may evaluate local programs and curriculum  
11 materials developed under Subsection (p-2) and distribute to other  
12 school districts information regarding those programs and  
13 materials.

14        SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
15 school year.

16        SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.