

By: Martinez Fischer

H.B. No. 4111

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to public notice requirements and other provisions
3 applicable to the board of trustees of a school district proposing
4 to close a district campus.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 11, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 11.163 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 11.163. CAMPUS CLOSURES. (a) If the board of trustees
9 of a school district proposes to close a campus, the board must:

10 (1) send written notice of the proposed closure by
11 regular mail to the parent of each child who would otherwise attend
12 the campus during the first school year that the campus is proposed
13 to be closed;

14 (2) provide a period of at least 90 days after the date
15 notice is sent under Subdivision (1) for soliciting and considering
16 public comment regarding the proposed closure;

17 (3) promptly make district documents associated with
18 the proposed closure, other than documents that are confidential
19 under law, available to the public through the Internet and by other
20 means for persons without Internet access; and

21 (4) hold one or more public meetings during the period
22 described by Subdivision (2) at which the district superintendent
23 and board members are available to answer questions and receive
24 comments, including questions and comments relating to the

1 documents made available under Subdivision (3).

2 (b) If, after conclusion of the period described by
3 Subsection (a)(2) and consideration of public comments, the board
4 of trustees continues to conclude that the campus should be closed,
5 the district must develop a written closure plan that:

6 (1) describes the ways in which each affected child's
7 education will be altered as a result of the closure;

8 (2) identifies each educational program available at
9 the campus being closed that will not be available at each campus to
10 which students will be transferred as a result of the closure;

11 (3) describes the effect of the closure on student
12 safety, including such elements as the number of registered sex
13 offenders residing in the vicinity of each campus to which students
14 will be transferred as a result of the closure; and

15 (4) addresses questions and comments raised by the
16 public during the period described by Subsection (a)(2).

17 (c) The district must make the closure plan required by
18 Subsection (b) available to the public through the Internet and by
19 other appropriate means for persons without Internet access.

20 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, if
21 any members of the board of trustees of a school district are
22 elected from single-member trustee districts, the board may not
23 close a campus unless:

24 (1) the board includes a member representing the
25 single-member trustee district that includes the territory in which
26 the campus to be closed is located; and

27 (2) the member described by Subdivision (1) attends

1 each public meeting held under Subsection (a)(4).

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.