

By: Carona

S.B. No. 356

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the frequency and content of school bus emergency
3 evacuation training.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 34.0021, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsections (a), (b), and (d) and adding Subsection (c-1)
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) Pursuant to the safety standards established by the
9 Department of Public Safety under Section 34.002, each school
10 district shall conduct a training session for school bus passengers
11 [~~students and teachers~~] concerning procedures for evacuating a
12 school bus during an emergency.

13 (b) A school district shall conduct a school bus
14 emergency evacuation training session [~~at least twice each school~~
15 ~~year, with one training session occurring~~] in the fall of each
16 school year [~~and one training session occurring in the spring~~]. A
17 portion of the training session must occur on a school bus and the
18 training session must last for at least one hour.

19 (c-1) Immediately before each field trip involving
20 transportation by school bus, a school district shall review school
21 bus emergency evacuation procedures with the school bus passengers,
22 including a demonstration of the school bus emergency exits and the
23 safe manner to exit.

24 (d) Not later than the 30th day after the date that a school

1 district completes the [a] training session required by Subsection
2 (b), the district shall provide the Department of Public Safety
3 with a record certifying the district's completion of the training.

4 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
5 school year.

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