

By: Williams, Seliger

S.B. No. 778

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the inclusion of professional staff who educate
3 students with disabilities on district-level and campus-level
4 planning and decision-making committees.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subsections (b) and (e), Section 11.251,
7 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The board shall adopt a policy to establish a district-
9 and campus-level planning and decision-making process that will
10 involve the professional staff of the district, parents, and
11 community members in establishing and reviewing the district's and
12 campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and
13 major classroom instructional programs. The board shall establish
14 a procedure under which meetings are held regularly by district-
15 and campus-level planning and decision-making committees that
16 include representative professional staff, including, if
17 practicable, at least one representative with the primary
18 responsibility for educating students with disabilities, parents
19 of students enrolled in the district, business representatives, and
20 community members. The committees shall include a business
21 representative without regard to whether the representative
22 resides in the district or whether the business the person
23 represents is located in the district. The board, or the board's
24 designee, shall periodically meet with the district-level

1 committee to review the district-level committee's deliberations.

2 (e) The board shall adopt a procedure, consistent with
3 Section 21.407(a), for the professional staff in the district to
4 nominate and elect the professional staff representatives who shall
5 meet with the board or the board designee as required under this
6 section. At least two-thirds of the elected professional staff
7 representatives must be classroom teachers. The remaining staff
8 representatives shall include both campus- and district-level
9 professional staff members. If practicable, the committee
10 membership shall include at least one professional staff
11 representative with the primary responsibility for educating
12 students with disabilities. Board policy must provide procedures
13 for:

14 (1) the selection of parents to the district-level and
15 campus-level committees; and

16 (2) the selection of community members and business
17 representatives to serve on the district-level committee in a
18 manner that provides for appropriate representation of the
19 community's diversity.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.