

1-1 By: Williams, Seliger S.B. No. 778
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 18, 2011; March 1, 2011,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;
1-4 March 24, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; March 24, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the inclusion of professional staff who educate
1-9 students with disabilities on district-level and campus-level
1-10 planning and decision-making committees.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subsections (b) and (e), Section 11.251,
1-13 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-14 (b) The board shall adopt a policy to establish a district-
1-15 and campus-level planning and decision-making process that will
1-16 involve the professional staff of the district, parents, and
1-17 community members in establishing and reviewing the district's and
1-18 campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives, and
1-19 major classroom instructional programs. The board shall establish
1-20 a procedure under which meetings are held regularly by district-
1-21 and campus-level planning and decision-making committees that
1-22 include representative professional staff, including, if
1-23 practicable, at least one representative with the primary
1-24 responsibility for educating students with disabilities, parents
1-25 of students enrolled in the district, business representatives, and
1-26 community members. The committees shall include a business
1-27 representative without regard to whether the representative
1-28 resides in the district or whether the business the person
1-29 represents is located in the district. The board, or the board's
1-30 designee, shall periodically meet with the district-level
1-31 committee to review the district-level committee's deliberations.

1-32 (e) The board shall adopt a procedure, consistent with
1-33 Section 21.407(a), for the professional staff in the district to
1-34 nominate and elect the professional staff representatives who shall
1-35 meet with the board or the board designee as required under this
1-36 section. At least two-thirds of the elected professional staff
1-37 representatives must be classroom teachers. The remaining staff
1-38 representatives shall include both campus- and district-level
1-39 professional staff members. If practicable, the committee
1-40 membership shall include at least one professional staff
1-41 representative with the primary responsibility for educating
1-42 students with disabilities. Board policy must provide procedures
1-43 for:

1-44 (1) the selection of parents to the district-level and
1-45 campus-level committees; and

1-46 (2) the selection of community members and business
1-47 representatives to serve on the district-level committee in a
1-48 manner that provides for appropriate representation of the
1-49 community's diversity.

1-50 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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