

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a school safety certification program and the School Safety Task Force.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 37, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 37.1081 and 37.1082 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.1081. SCHOOL SAFETY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

(a) The Texas School Safety Center, in consultation with the School Safety Task Force established under Section 37.1082, shall develop a school safety certification program.

(b) The Texas School Safety Center shall award a school safety certificate to a school district that:

(1) has adopted and implemented a multihazard emergency operations plan as required under Section 37.108 and that includes in that plan:

(A) measures for security of facilities and grounds;

(B) measures for communication with parents and the media in the event of an emergency; and

(C) an outline of safety training for school employees;

(2) demonstrates to the center with current written self-audit processes that the district conducts at least one drill per year for each of the following types of drills:

- 1           (A) a school lockdown drill;
- 2           (B) an evacuation drill;
- 3           (C) a weather-related emergency drill;
- 4           (D) a reverse evacuation drill; and
- 5           (E) a shelter-in-place drill;

6           (3) is in compliance with Sections 37.108(b) and (c);

7 and

8           (4) meets any other eligibility criteria as  
9 recommended by the School Safety Task Force.

10          (c) The certification program is abolished and this section  
11 expires September 1, 2017.

12          Sec. 37.1082. SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE. (a) The School  
13 Safety Task Force is established to:

14           (1) study, on an ongoing basis, best practices for  
15 school multihazard emergency operations planning; and

16           (2) based on those studies, make recommendations to  
17 the legislature, the Texas School Safety Center, and the governor's  
18 office of homeland security.

19          (b) The task force is composed of:

20           (1) the chief of the Texas Division of Emergency  
21 Management, or the chief's designee;

22           (2) the training director of the Advanced Law  
23 Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center at Texas State  
24 University--San Marcos, or the training director's designee;

25           (3) the chairperson of the Texas School Safety Center,  
26 or the chairperson's designee; and

27           (4) the agency director of the Texas A&M Engineering

1 Extension Service, or the agency director's designee.

2 (c) The chief of the Texas Division of Emergency Management,  
3 or the chief's designee, shall serve as the presiding officer of the  
4 task force.

5 (d) A member of the task force is not entitled to  
6 compensation for service on the task force but is entitled to  
7 reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in  
8 performing task force duties.

9 (e) In performing the task force's duties under this section  
10 for schools, the task force shall consult with and consider  
11 recommendations from school district and school personnel,  
12 including school safety personnel and educators, and from first  
13 responders, emergency managers, local officials, representatives  
14 of appropriate nonprofit organizations, and other interested  
15 parties with knowledge and experience concerning school emergency  
16 operations planning.

17 (f) Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year,  
18 the task force shall prepare and submit to the legislature a report  
19 concerning the results of the task force's most recent study,  
20 including any recommendations for statutory changes the task force  
21 considers necessary or appropriate to improve school multihazard  
22 emergency operations.

23 (g) The task force is abolished and this section expires  
24 September 1, 2017.

25 SECTION 2. Section 46.0081, Education Code, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 Sec. 46.0081. SECURITY CRITERIA IN DESIGN OF INSTRUCTIONAL

1 FACILITIES. A school district that constructs a new instructional  
2 facility or conducts a major renovation of an existing  
3 instructional facility using funds allotted to the district under  
4 this subchapter shall consider, in the design of the instructional  
5 facility, appropriate security criteria [~~developed by the Texas~~  
6 ~~School Safety Center under Section 37.2051~~].

7 SECTION 3. Section 37.2051, Education Code, is repealed.

8 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1556 passed the Senate on April 25, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 21, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1556 passed the House, with amendments, on May 17, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 135, Nays 5, three present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor