

By: Nevárez

H.B. No. 699

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring public institutions of higher education to establish a policy on campus sexual assault.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9363 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9363. CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY. (a) In this section, "institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) Each institution of higher education shall adopt a policy on campus sexual assault. The policy must:

(1) include:

(A) definitions of prohibited behavior;

(B) sanctions for violations; and

(C) the protocol for reporting and responding to reports of campus sexual assault; and

(2) be approved by the institution's governing board before final adoption by the institution.

(c) Each institution of higher education shall make the institution's campus sexual assault policy available to students, faculty, and staff members by:

(1) including the policy in the institution's student handbook and personnel handbook; and

(2) creating and maintaining a web page on the

1 institution's Internet website dedicated solely to the policy.

2 (d) Each biennium, each institution of higher education
3 shall review the institution's campus sexual assault policy and,
4 with approval of the institution's governing board, revise the
5 policy as necessary.

6 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable following the effective
7 date of this Act, each institution of higher education shall comply
8 with the requirements of Section 51.9363, Education Code, as added
9 by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.