

By: González

H.B. No. 2677

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to training for employees of school districts and
3 open-enrollment charter schools on the prevention of sexual abuse
4 and other maltreatment of certain children.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 38.0041(c), Education Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (c) The methods under Subsection (b)(1) for increasing
9 awareness of issues regarding sexual abuse and other maltreatment
10 of children must include training, as provided by this subsection,
11 concerning prevention techniques for and recognition of sexual
12 abuse and all other maltreatment of children, including children
13 with significant cognitive disabilities. The training:

14 (1) must be provided, as part of a new employee
15 orientation, to all new school district and open-enrollment charter
16 school employees and to existing district and open-enrollment
17 charter school employees on a schedule adopted by the agency by rule
18 until all district and open-enrollment charter school employees
19 have taken the training; and

20 (2) must include training concerning:

21 (A) factors indicating a child is at risk for
22 sexual abuse or other maltreatment;

23 (B) likely warning signs indicating a child may
24 be a victim of sexual abuse or other maltreatment;

1 (C) internal procedures for seeking assistance
2 for a child who is at risk for sexual abuse or other maltreatment,
3 including referral to a school counselor, a social worker, or
4 another mental health professional;

5 (D) techniques for reducing a child's risk of
6 sexual abuse or other maltreatment; and

7 (E) community organizations that have relevant
8 existing research-based programs that are able to provide training
9 or other education for school district or open-enrollment charter
10 school staff members, students, and parents.

11 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016
12 school year.

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