

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 164

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a notification requirement if a school counselor is not assigned to a public school campus in certain school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.008 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.008. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SCHOOL COUNSELORS. (a) If a public school, including an open-enrollment charter school, does not have a full-time school counselor certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, assigned to the campus for more than 30 consecutive instructional days during the same school year, notice of the absence of a school counselor must be posted on the Internet website of:

(1) the school district; and

(2) the school, if the school maintains an Internet website.

(b) The district and the school shall post the notice required by Subsection (a) not later than the 30th instructional day after the first day the school does not have a full-time school counselor assigned to the campus.

(c) The district and the school may include with the notice required by Subsection (a) information regarding when a school counselor is available at the campus.

(d) The district and the school shall:

1           (1) make a good faith effort to ensure that the notice  
2 required by this section is provided in a bilingual form; and

3           (2) retain a copy of any notice provided under this  
4 section.

5           (e) The commissioner may adopt necessary rules regarding  
6 the notice required by this section.

7           (f) A school district that is located in a county with a  
8 population of less than 100,000 is not required to provide the  
9 notice required by this section.

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

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