

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 164

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a notification requirement if a school counselor is not  
3 assigned to a public school campus.

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

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

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

14 (1) the school district; and

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

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

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

24 (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           SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016  
8 school year.

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