

By: Campbell, et al.

S.B. No. 1169

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to suicide prevention training for educators in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Jason Flatt Act in memory of Jonathan Childers.

SECTION 2. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (d-1) and (d-2) to read as follows:

(d) The staff development:

(1) may include training in:

(A) technology;

(B) conflict resolution;

(C) discipline strategies, including classroom management, district discipline policies, and the student code of conduct adopted under Section 37.001 and Chapter 37; and

(D) preventing, identifying, responding to, and reporting incidents of bullying; ~~and~~

(2) subject to Subsection (e) and to Section 21.3541 and rules adopted under that section, must include training based on scientifically based research, as defined by Section 9101, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Section 7801), that:

(A) relates to instruction of students with disabilities; and

1 (B) is designed for educators who work primarily
2 outside the area of special education; and

3 (3) must include at least two hours of suicide
4 prevention training that must be provided:

5 (A) on an annual basis, as part of a new employee
6 orientation, to all new school district and open-enrollment charter
7 school educators; and

8 (B) to existing school district and
9 open-enrollment charter school educators on a schedule adopted by
10 the agency by rule.

11 (d-1) The suicide prevention training required by
12 Subsection (d)(3) must use a best practice-based program
13 recommended by the Department of State Health Services in
14 coordination with the agency under Section 161.325, Health and
15 Safety Code.

16 (d-2) The suicide prevention training required by
17 Subsection (d)(3) may be satisfied through independent review of
18 suicide prevention training material that:

19 (1) complies with the guidelines developed by the
20 agency; and

21 (2) is offered online.

22 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016
23 school year.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.