

AN ACT

relating to a requirement that certain entering students at a general academic teaching institution receive information regarding mental health and suicide prevention services.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9194 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9194. REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR ENTERING STUDENTS REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES. (a) A general academic teaching institution shall provide to each entering full-time undergraduate, graduate, or professional student, including each full-time undergraduate, graduate, or professional student who transfers to the institution, information about:

(1) available mental health and suicide prevention services offered by the institution or by any associated organizations or programs; and

(2) early warning signs that are often present in and appropriate intervention for a person who may be considering suicide.

(b) The information required under this section:

(1) may be provided through:

(A) a live presentation; or

(B) a format that allows for student interaction,

1 such as an online program or video; and

2 (2) may not be provided in a paper format only.

3 SECTION 2. Section 51.9194, Education Code, as added by  
4 this Act, applies to full-time entering students who are admitted  
5 to an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree program at a  
6 general academic teaching institution beginning with the 2016 fall  
7 semester.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1624 passed the Senate on May 13, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 21, Nays 10; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 30, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 20, Nays 11.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1624 passed the House, with amendment, on May 27, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 129, Nays 15, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor