By: Hinojosa

H.B. No. 357

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 AN ACT 2 relating to requiring a school district to give notice to new classroom teachers of the ability to participate in the Public 3 Service Loan Forgiveness Program. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: 5 6 SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 6, Government Code, is amended 7 by adding Chapter 620 to read as follows: CHAPTER 620. NOTICE TO CLASSROOM TEACHERS OF PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN 8 9 FORGIVENESS PROGRAM Sec. 620.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter: 10 11 (1) "Classroom teacher" has the meaning assigned by 12 Section 5.001, Education Code. 13 (2) "School district" has the meaning assigned by 14 Section 21.201, Education Code. Sec. 620.002. NOTICE TO CLASSROOM TEACHERS OF PUBLIC 15 SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM. Not later than the 30th day after 16 the date on which a classroom teacher begins employment with a 17 school district, the school district shall provide written notice 18 to the classroom teacher of the ability of eligible classroom 19 teachers of the school district to participate in the Public 20 Service Loan Forgiveness Program administered by the United States 21 Department of Education. A school district may deliver a written 22 23 notice under this section to a classroom teacher by hand delivery, mail, e-mail, or other form of electronic communication commonly 24

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1 <u>used by the school district to communicate with classroom teachers.</u>
2 SECTION 2. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
3 section, Chapter 620, Government Code, as added by this Act,
4 applies to a classroom teacher who begins employment on or after the
5 effective date of this Act.

6 (b) A school district shall provide the written notice 7 described by Section 620.002, Government Code, as added by this 8 Act, to a classroom teacher employed by the school district on the 9 effective date of this Act not later than December 11, 2017.

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SECTION 3. This Act takes effect December 1, 2017.