

By: González of El Paso

H.B. No. 1869

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to training for employees of school districts and
3 open-enrollment charter schools on the prevention of sexual abuse
4 and other maltreatment of certain children.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 38.0041(c), Education Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (c) The methods under Subsection (b)(1) for increasing
9 awareness of issues regarding sexual abuse and other maltreatment
10 of children must include training, as provided by this subsection,
11 concerning prevention techniques for and recognition of sexual
12 abuse and all other maltreatment of children, including the sexual
13 abuse and other maltreatment of children with significant cognitive
14 disabilities in both educational and noneducational settings. The
15 training:

16 (1) must be provided, as part of a new employee
17 orientation, to all new school district and open-enrollment charter
18 school employees and to existing district and open-enrollment
19 charter school employees on a schedule adopted by the agency by rule
20 until all district and open-enrollment charter school employees
21 have taken the training; and

22 (2) must include training concerning:

23 (A) factors indicating a child is at risk for
24 sexual abuse or other maltreatment;

1 (B) likely warning signs indicating a child may
2 be a victim of sexual abuse or other maltreatment;

3 (C) internal procedures for seeking assistance
4 for a child who is at risk for sexual abuse or other maltreatment,
5 including referral to a school counselor, a social worker, or
6 another mental health professional;

7 (D) techniques for reducing a child's risk of
8 sexual abuse or other maltreatment; and

9 (E) community organizations that have relevant
10 existing research-based programs that are able to provide training
11 or other education for school district or open-enrollment charter
12 school staff members, students, and parents.

13 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
14 school year.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.