

By: Hall

S.B. No. 1309

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to state requirements for teacher training and student instruction regarding certain subjects in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h) Notwithstanding any other law, a school district may not be required to provide staff training regarding:

(1) Internet safety;

(2) teen dating violence;

(3) bullying;

(4) student parenthood;

(5) child abuse; or

(6) school bus transportation safety.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.0026 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0026. INSTRUCTION NOT REQUIRED. Notwithstanding any other law, a school district may not be required to provide student instruction regarding:

(1) Internet safety;

(2) teen dating violence;

(3) bullying;

(4) student parenthood;

(5) child abuse; or

1 (6) school bus transportation safety.

2 SECTION 3. Section 34.008(c), Education Code, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (c) A mass transit authority contracting under this section
5 for daily transportation of pre-primary, primary, or secondary
6 students to or from school shall conduct, in a manner and on a
7 schedule approved by the county or district school board, the
8 following education programs:

9 (1) a program to inform the public that public school
10 students will be riding on the authority's or company's buses; and

11 (2) a program to educate the drivers of the buses to be
12 used under the contract of the special needs and problems of public
13 school students riding on the buses[~~, and~~

14 ~~[(3) a program to educate public school students on
15 bus riding safety and any special considerations arising from the
16 use of the authority's or company's buses].~~

17 SECTION 4. Section 37.001(a), Education Code, as amended by
18 Chapters 487 (S.B. 1541) and 1409 (S.B. 1114), Acts of the 83rd
19 Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, is reenacted and amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (a) The board of trustees of an independent school district
22 shall, with the advice of its district-level committee established
23 under Subchapter F, Chapter 11, adopt a student code of conduct for
24 the district. The student code of conduct must be posted and
25 prominently displayed at each school campus or made available for
26 review at the office of the campus principal. In addition to
27 establishing standards for student conduct, the student code of

1 conduct must:

2 (1) specify the circumstances, in accordance with this
3 subchapter, under which a student may be removed from a classroom,
4 campus, disciplinary alternative education program, or vehicle
5 owned or operated by the district;

6 (2) specify conditions that authorize or require a
7 principal or other appropriate administrator to transfer a student
8 to a disciplinary alternative education program;

9 (3) outline conditions under which a student may be
10 suspended as provided by Section 37.005 or expelled as provided by
11 Section 37.007;

12 (4) specify that consideration will be given, as a
13 factor in each decision concerning suspension, removal to a
14 disciplinary alternative education program, expulsion, or
15 placement in a juvenile justice alternative education program,
16 regardless of whether the decision concerns a mandatory or
17 discretionary action, to:

18 (A) self-defense;

19 (B) intent or lack of intent at the time the
20 student engaged in the conduct;

21 (C) a student's disciplinary history; or

22 (D) a disability that substantially impairs the
23 student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's
24 conduct;

25 (5) provide guidelines for setting the length of a
26 term of:

27 (A) a removal under Section 37.006; and

1 (B) an expulsion under Section 37.007;

2 (6) address the notification of a student's parent or
3 guardian of a violation of the student code of conduct committed by
4 the student that results in suspension, removal to a disciplinary
5 alternative education program, or expulsion;

6 (7) prohibit bullying, harassment, and making hit
7 lists and ensure that district employees enforce those
8 prohibitions; and

9 (8) provide, as appropriate for students at each grade
10 level, methods, including options, for:

11 (A) managing students in the classroom, on school
12 grounds, and on a vehicle owned or operated by the district;

13 (B) disciplining students; and

14 (C) preventing and intervening in student
15 discipline problems[~~, including bullying, harassment, and making~~
16 ~~hit lists~~].

17 SECTION 5. Section 37.0831(b), Education Code, is amended
18 to read as follows:

19 (b) A dating violence policy must:

20 (1) include a definition of dating violence that
21 includes the intentional use of physical, sexual, verbal, or
22 emotional abuse by a person to harm, threaten, intimidate, or
23 control another person in a dating relationship, as defined by
24 Section 71.0021, Family Code; and

25 (2) address safety planning, enforcement of
26 protective orders, school-based alternatives to protective orders,
27 and [~~training for teachers and administrators,~~] counseling for

1 affected students[, ~~and awareness education for students and~~
2 ~~parents~~].

3 SECTION 6. The following provisions of the Education Code
4 are repealed:

5 (1) Sections 28.002(p), (p-2), (p-3), (p-4), and (s);
6 and

7 (2) Section 38.004(b).

8 SECTION 7. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
9 school year.

10 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.