H.B. No. 403

AN ACT

relating to training requirements for a member of the board of trustees and the superintendent of an independent school district regarding sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 11.159, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (c-1), (c-2), and (e) to read as follows:

(c)  The State Board of Education shall require a trustee to complete every two years at least:

(1)  three hours of training [~~every two years~~] on evaluating student academic performance; and

(2)  one hour of training on identifying and reporting potential victims of sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children.

(c-1)  The training required by Subsection (c)(1) must be research-based and designed to support the oversight role of the board of trustees under Section 11.1515.

(c-2)  A candidate for trustee may complete the training required by Subsection (c) up to one year before the candidate is elected.  A new trustee shall complete the training within 120 days after the date of the trustee's election or appointment.  A returning trustee shall complete the training by the second anniversary of the completion of the trustee's previous training.

(e)  For purposes of this section, "other maltreatment" has the meaning assigned by Section 42.002, Human Resources Code.

SECTION 2.  Section 21.054, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h)  Continuing education requirements for a superintendent must include at least 2-1/2 hours of training every five years on identifying and reporting potential victims of sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children. For purposes of this subsection, "other maltreatment" has the meaning assigned by Section 42.002, Human Resources Code.

SECTION 3.  A superintendent subject to continuing education requirements immediately before the effective date of this Act is not required to comply with the continuing education requirements described by Section 21.054(h), Education Code, as added by this Act, for any continuing education requirements period that ends before January 1, 2021.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 403 was passed by the House on March 20, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 148, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 403 was passed by the Senate on May 15, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                    Date

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                  Governor