By:  Allison, Talarico, González of El Paso, H.B. No. 3018

     et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring the incorporation of instruction in digital citizenship into the curriculum of certain school districts.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (z) to read as follows:

(z)  The State Board of Education by rule shall require each school district with an enrollment of at least 3,250 students to incorporate instruction in digital citizenship into the district's curriculum. In this subsection, "digital citizenship" means the standards of appropriate, responsible, and healthy online behavior, including the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act on all forms of digital communication.

SECTION 2.  This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

SECTION 3.  A school district is required to implement a provision of this Act only if the legislature appropriates money to the Texas Education Agency that is provided to school districts specifically for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money that is provided to school districts specifically for that purpose, a school district may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.