

By: Rosenthal

H.B. No. 2654

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to building standards for instructional facilities and campus safety procedures for public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 11, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 11.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.007. BUILDING STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITIES. (a) In this section, "instructional facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 46.001.

(b) A school district that constructs a new instructional facility must comply with the following building and design standards:

(1) a lock on each entrance door to the building and classroom door that enables the door to be locked and opened without a key from inside the building or classroom;

(2) windows on classroom doors that are narrow and placed on the side of the door away from the door handle;

(3) for a classroom or administrative office wall, the use of material that is not glass or transparent;

(4) for each window in a classroom or administrative office, a window covering that may be used to block the view;

(5) a fully functional public address system that can be clearly heard from each classroom and hallway; and

(6) an adequate number of security cameras to provide

1 video coverage of each building entrance and hallway.

2 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code, is
3 amended by adding Section 12.138 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 12.138. BUILDING STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL
5 FACILITIES. (a) In this section, "instructional facility" has the
6 meaning assigned by Section 46.001.

7 (b) An open-enrollment charter school that constructs a new
8 instructional facility must comply with the following building and
9 design standards:

10 (1) a lock on each entrance door to the building and
11 classroom door that enables the door to be locked and opened without
12 a key from inside the building or classroom;

13 (2) windows on classroom doors that are narrow and
14 placed on the side of the door away from the door handle;

15 (3) for a classroom or administrative office wall, the
16 use of material that is not glass or transparent;

17 (4) for each window in a classroom or administrative
18 office, a window covering that may be used to block the view;

19 (5) a fully functional public address system that can
20 be clearly heard from each classroom and hallway; and

21 (6) an adequate number of security cameras to provide
22 video coverage of each building entrance and hallway.

23 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 37, Education Code, is
24 amended by adding Section 37.116 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 37.116. CAMPUS SAFETY PROCEDURES. Each school
26 district and open-enrollment charter school shall adopt and
27 implement campus safety procedures that provide for the safety of

1 students and employees, including:

2 (1) ensuring the live video feed from each security
3 camera on a district or school campus is readily available to:

4 (A) the school district police department, if
5 applicable; or

6 (B) the dispatch center of a local law
7 enforcement agency responsible for responding to an emergency at a
8 campus of the district or school;

9 (2) requiring school activities to be conducted in a
10 classroom or in an area with direct access to a secure room, except
11 for athletic activities that may be held outdoors;

12 (3) testing the public address system regularly; and

13 (4) storing and maintaining in the main office of each
14 district or school campus an active shooter medical kit that
15 includes tourniquets, bandages, and other supplies that are
16 typically used to treat an injury involving traumatic blood loss.

17 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 45, Education Code, is
18 amended by adding Section 45.0572 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 45.0572. REQUIRED BUILDING STANDARDS. A school
20 district seeking the guarantee of eligible bonds to be used to fund
21 construction of a new instructional facility, as defined by Section
22 46.001, must comply with Section 11.007 in order to be eligible for
23 the guarantee.

24 SECTION 5. Section 46.0081, Education Code, is amended to
25 read as follows:

26 Sec. 46.0081. SECURITY CRITERIA IN DESIGN OF INSTRUCTIONAL
27 FACILITIES. (a) A school district that constructs a new

1 instructional facility or conducts a major renovation of an
2 existing instructional facility using funds allotted to the
3 district under this subchapter shall consider, in the design of the
4 instructional facility, appropriate security criteria.

5 (b) A school district that constructs a new instructional
6 facility using funds allotted to the district under this subchapter
7 must comply with Section 11.007.

8 SECTION 6. Subchapter B, Chapter 46, Education Code, is
9 amended by adding Section 46.0341 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 46.0341. REQUIRED BUILDING STANDARDS. Section
11 46.0081(b) applies to the payment of and application for assistance
12 under this subchapter.

13 SECTION 7. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, each school district and open-enrollment charter
15 school shall adopt and implement campus safety procedures as
16 required by Section 37.116, Education Code, as added by this Act.

17 SECTION 8. Sections 11.007 and 12.138, Education Code, as
18 added by this Act, apply only to the construction of a new
19 instructional facility that begins on or after September 1, 2019.

20 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 45, Education Code, as
21 amended by this Act, and Chapter 46, Education Code, as amended by
22 this Act, apply only to a school district's application for
23 guarantee of bonds by the permanent school fund under Subchapter C,
24 Chapter 45, Education Code, or a school district's application for
25 state assistance under Chapter 46, Education Code, that is made on
26 or after September 1, 2019. A school district's application for
27 guarantee of bonds by the permanent school fund or for state

1 assistance under Chapter 46, Education Code, that is made before
2 September 1, 2019, is governed by the law in effect on the date the
3 application is made, and the former law is continued in effect for
4 that purpose.

5 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect immediately if it
6 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
7 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
8 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
9 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.