

By: Seliger

S.B. No. 1398

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a behavior improvement plan imposed as a public school truancy prevention measure.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.0915(a-1), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) As a truancy prevention measure under Subsection (a), a school district shall take one or more of the following actions:

(1) impose:

(A) a behavior improvement plan on the student that must be signed by an employee of the district ~~[school]~~, that the school district has made a good faith effort to have signed by the student or ~~[and]~~ the student's parent or guardian, and that includes:

(i) a specific description of the behavior that is required or prohibited for the student;

(ii) the period for which the plan will be effective, not to exceed 90 ~~[45]~~ school days after the date the contract becomes effective; or

(iii) the penalties for additional absences, including additional disciplinary action or the referral of the student to a truancy court; or

(B) school-based community service; or

(2) refer the student to counseling, mediation,

1 mentoring, a teen court program, community-based services, or other  
2 in-school or out-of-school services aimed at addressing the  
3 student's truancy.

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

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.