By:  González of El Paso H.B. No. 129

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring a digital citizenship curriculum.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 28.002(z)(2), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

"Digital citizenship" means the standards of appropriate, responsible, and healthy online behavior, including:

(A)  cyberbullying prevention and response; cyberbullying has the meaning assigned by Section 37.0832(2);

(B)  digital ethics, etiquette, safety, and security, including the identification of hate speech, racism, and discrimination;

(C)  media literacy including the ability to identify credible sources of information, and access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act on all forms of digital communication.

SECTION 2.  Section 28.025 (b-1), Education Code, is amended by adding:

(9)  one credit in digital citizenship as defined by Section 28.002(z)(2).

SECTION 3.  This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

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, 2021.