87R11742 BDP-D

By:  Morales Shaw H.B. No. 4257

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the trauma-informed care policy for school districts and open-enrollment charter schools.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 38.036(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  A policy required by this section must address:

(1)  using resources developed by the agency, methods for:

(A)  increasing staff and parent awareness of trauma-informed care; and

(B)  implementation of trauma-informed practices and care by district and campus staff; [~~and~~]

(2)  available counseling options for students affected by trauma or grief; and

(3)  the district's plan for providing support to students, teachers, and district staff in the event of a crisis, including through methods such as mental health first aid and referrals to community providers for mental health services.

SECTION 2.  This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

SECTION 3.  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.