

By: Morales Shaw

H.B. No. 3462

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the designation of liaison officers to assist certain  
3 students at public institutions of higher education who are  
4 parents.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 51.9357 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.9357. DESIGNATION OF LIAISON OFFICER TO ASSIST  
9 CERTAIN STUDENTS WHO ARE PARENTS; REPORT. (a) In this section:

10 (1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher  
11 Education Coordinating Board.

12 (2) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning  
13 assigned by Section 61.003.

14 (b) Each institution of higher education shall designate at  
15 least one employee of the institution to act as a liaison officer  
16 for current or incoming students at the institution who are the  
17 parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The  
18 liaison officer shall provide to the students information regarding  
19 support services and other resources available to the students at  
20 the institution, including:

21 (1) resources to access:

22 (A) medical and behavioral health coverage and  
23 services; and

24 (B) public benefit programs, including programs

1 related to food security, affordable housing, and housing  
2 subsidies;  
3 (2) parenting and child care resources;  
4 (3) employment assistance;  
5 (4) transportation assistance;  
6 (5) student academic success strategies; and  
7 (6) any other resources developed by the institution  
8 to assist the students.

9 (c) Not later than May 1 of each academic year, an  
10 institution of higher education shall submit to the coordinating  
11 board a report that contains the following information regarding  
12 students enrolled at the institution for the current academic year  
13 who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of  
14 age:

15 (1) the number of those students;  
16 (2) demographic data, including age, race, sex,  
17 ethnicity, and national origin;  
18 (3) academic data, including full-time or part-time  
19 enrollment status and graduation, transfer, and withdrawal rates;  
20 and  
21 (4) other data as prescribed by coordinating board  
22 rule.

23 (d) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to administer  
24 this section, including rules to ensure compliance with federal law  
25 regarding confidentiality of student medical or educational  
26 information, including the Health Insurance Portability and  
27 Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. Section 1320d et seq.), the

1 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C.  
2 Section 1232g), and any state law relating to the privacy of student  
3 information.

4 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
5 amended by adding Section 61.09081 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 61.09081. DESIGNATION OF LIAISON OFFICER TO ASSIST  
7 CERTAIN STUDENTS WHO ARE PARENTS. The board shall designate at  
8 least one employee of the board to act as a liaison officer for  
9 current or incoming students at institutions of higher education  
10 who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of  
11 age. The liaison officer shall assist in coordinating college  
12 readiness and student success efforts relating to those students.

13 SECTION 3. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective  
14 date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
15 shall adopt rules to implement Sections 51.9357 and 61.09081,  
16 Education Code, as added by this Act.

17 (b) This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022 academic  
18 year.

19 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.