

By: Kolkhorst

S.B. No. 838

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the authorization by a school district or
3 open-enrollment charter school for a person to carry or possess a
4 weapon on school premises for purposes of safety and security.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 37, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 37.0814 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 37.0814. SCHOOL GUARDIANS. (a) In this section,
9 "school guardian" means a person who, pursuant to the written
10 regulations or written authorization of a school district or
11 open-enrollment charter school under Section 46.03(a)(1)(A), Penal
12 Code, is authorized to carry or possess a specified weapon for the
13 purpose of providing safety and security on the physical premises
14 of a school, any grounds or building on which an activity sponsored
15 by a school is being conducted, or a passenger transportation
16 vehicle of a school. The term does not include a school marshal, as
17 defined by Section 1701.001, Occupations Code, or a commissioned
18 peace officer.

19 (b) The Texas School Safety Center shall develop best
20 practices for school districts and open-enrollment charter schools
21 that authorize school guardians to provide safety and security.

22 (c) A school district or open-enrollment charter school
23 that authorizes school guardians shall report the identity of each
24 school guardian to:

1 (1) the Texas School Safety Center, in the form and
2 manner prescribed by the center; and

3 (2) a local law enforcement agency, on written request
4 of the head of the agency.

5 (d) Information on the identity of a school guardian
6 reported under Subsection (c) is confidential and is not subject to
7 disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, by a school
8 district, an open-enrollment charter school, the Texas School
9 Safety Center, or a law enforcement agency.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.