

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1596

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the membership of a school district's threat assessment  
3 and safe and supportive school team and committee and the school  
4 safety allotment under the public school finance system.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 37.108(b-1), Education Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (b-1) In a school district's safety and security audit  
9 required under Subsection (b), the district must certify that the  
10 district used the funds provided to the district through the school  
11 safety allotment under Section 48.115 [~~42.168~~] only for the  
12 purposes provided by that section.

13 SECTION 2. Sections 37.115(d) and (e), Education Code, are  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (d) The superintendent of the district shall ensure that the  
16 members appointed to each team have expertise in counseling,  
17 behavior management, mental health and substance use, classroom  
18 instruction, special education, school administration, school  
19 safety and security, and emergency management [~~and law~~  
20 ~~enforcement~~]. A team may serve more than one campus of a school  
21 district, provided that each district campus is assigned a team.

22 (e) The superintendent of a school district may establish a  
23 committee, or assign to an existing committee established by the  
24 district, the duty to oversee the operations of teams established

1 for the district. A committee with oversight responsibility under  
2 this subsection must include members with expertise in human  
3 resources, education, special education, counseling, behavior  
4 management, school administration, mental health and substance  
5 use, school safety and security, and emergency management [~~and law~~  
6 ~~enforcement~~].

7 SECTION 3. Section 42.168, Education Code, as added by  
8 Chapter 464 (S.B. 11), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular  
9 Session, 2019, is transferred to Subchapter C, Chapter 48,  
10 Education Code, redesignated as Section 48.115, Education Code,  
11 amended to conform to changes made by Chapter 943 (H.B. 3), Acts of  
12 the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, and further amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 Sec. 48.115 [~~42.168~~]. SCHOOL SAFETY ALLOTMENT. (a) From  
15 funds appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner shall provide  
16 to a school district an annual allotment in the amount provided by  
17 appropriation for each student in average daily attendance.

18 (b) Funds allocated under this section must be used to  
19 improve school safety and security, including costs associated  
20 with:

- 21 (1) securing school facilities, including:
- 22 (A) improvements to school infrastructure;
- 23 (B) the use or installation of physical barriers;
- 24 and
- 25 (C) the purchase and maintenance of:
- 26 (i) security cameras or other security  
27 equipment; and

1 (ii) technology, including communications  
2 systems or devices, that facilitates communication and information  
3 sharing between students, school personnel, and first responders in  
4 an emergency;

5 (2) [~~providing security for the district, including:~~

6 [~~(A) employing school district peace officers,  
7 private security officers, and school marshals; and~~

8 [~~(B) collaborating with local law enforcement  
9 agencies, such as entering into a memorandum of understanding for  
10 the assignment of school resource officers to schools in the  
11 district;~~

12 [~~3~~] school safety and security training and  
13 planning, including:

14 (A) active shooter and emergency response  
15 training;

16 (B) prevention and treatment programs relating  
17 to addressing adverse childhood experiences; and

18 (C) the prevention, identification, and  
19 management of emergencies and threats, using evidence-based,  
20 effective prevention practices and including:

21 (i) providing licensed counselors, social  
22 workers, social-emotional learning coordinators, and individuals  
23 trained in restorative discipline and restorative justice  
24 practices;

25 (ii) providing mental health personnel and  
26 support;

27 (iii) [~~(ii)~~] providing behavioral health

1 services; ~~and]~~

2 (iv) ~~[(iii)]~~ establishing threat reporting  
3 systems; and

4 (v) developing and implementing programs  
5 focused on social-emotional learning, restorative justice  
6 practices, culturally relevant instruction, and providing mental  
7 health support; and

8 (3) ~~[(4)]~~ providing programs related to suicide  
9 prevention, intervention, and postvention.

10 (c) A school district may use funds allocated under this  
11 section for equipment or software that is used for a school safety  
12 and security purpose and an instructional purpose, provided that  
13 the instructional use does not compromise the safety and security  
14 purpose of the equipment or software.

15 (d) The commissioner shall annually publish a report  
16 regarding funds allocated under this section including the  
17 programs, personnel, and resources purchased by districts using  
18 funds under this section and other purposes for which the funds were  
19 used ~~[A school district that is required to take action under~~  
20 ~~Chapter 41 to reduce its wealth per student to the equalized wealth~~  
21 ~~level is entitled to a credit, in the amount of the allotments to~~  
22 ~~which the district is to receive as provided by appropriation,~~  
23 ~~against the total amount required under Section 41.093 for the~~  
24 ~~district to purchase attendance credits].~~

25 ~~[(e) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this~~  
26 ~~section.]~~

27 SECTION 4. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails

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1 over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021,  
2 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted  
3 codes.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.