

By: Powell

S.B. No. 1855

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a survey developed and administered by the Texas Education Agency prior to assessment instruments.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 39, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 39.040 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.040. COVID-19 ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT SURVEY. (a) The agency, in consultation with Texas A&M University-Commerce, parent teacher associations, interested school districts, and other interested parties shall develop and administer a survey to each student immediately prior to the administration to the student of an assessment instrument required under Section 39.023.

(b) A survey administered under this section must:

(1) address the student's experience during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including problems or issues with Internet connectivity or access experienced by the student;

(2) collect information on the socioeconomic status of the student;

(3) collect information on whether the student participated in digital and online learning or in-person learning; and

(4) any additional questions the Commissioner may deem appropriate.

1 (c) The agency shall use the results of surveys administered
2 under this section to adopt and amend agency policies, procedures,
3 and rules relating to the administration of assessment instruments
4 under Section 39.023.

5 (d) No later than November 1, 2022, the agency shall submit
6 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house
7 of representatives, and the agency a report of the results of the
8 survey administered under Sect. 39.040 and any recommendations for
9 legislative or other actions.

10 (e) This section expires September 1, 2023.

11 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
12 of this Act and before the administration during the 2021-2022
13 school year of an assessment instrument required by Section 39.023,
14 Education Code, the Texas Education Agency shall develop the survey
15 required under Section 39.040, Education Code, as added by this
16 Act.

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