

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 2057

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a matching grant program for school districts for the
3 development and implementation of programs to address the social,
4 emotional, and behavioral needs of students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 38, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 38.354 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 38.354. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM. (a) Subject to the
9 availability of federal or state-appropriated funds, the
10 commissioner shall establish a program under which grants are
11 awarded to school districts in an amount to match the amount of
12 funds pledged by the district to develop and implement programs
13 addressing the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students.
14 Funds used by a district to establish a program under this section
15 must be funds received by the district through the school safety
16 allotment as provided by Section 48.115.

17 (b) In awarding grants under this section, the commissioner
18 shall prioritize the award of grants to school districts located in
19 rural areas and areas that have low property wealth per student.

20 (c) A program developed by a school district using a grant
21 awarded under this section must include research-based practices
22 and may include training, technical assistance, mentoring,
23 coaching, and evaluation services for district personnel and
24 program participants.

1 (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to
2 establish the matching grant program under this section.

3 SECTION 2. Section 42.168, Education Code, as added by
4 Chapter 464 (S.B. 11), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular
5 Session, 2019, is transferred to Subchapter C, Chapter 48,
6 Education Code, redesignated as Section 48.115, Education Code, and
7 amended to conform to changes made by Chapter 943 (H.B. 3), Acts of
8 the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, to read as follows:

9 Sec. 48.115 [~~42.168~~]. SCHOOL SAFETY ALLOTMENT. (a) In
10 this section, "postvention" has the meaning assigned by Section
11 38.351.

12 (b) From funds appropriated for that purpose, the
13 commissioner shall provide to a school district an annual allotment
14 in the amount provided by appropriation for each student in average
15 daily attendance.

16 (c) [~~(b)~~] Funds allocated under this section must be used to
17 improve school safety and security, including costs associated
18 with:

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

26 (ii) technology, including communications
27 systems or devices, that facilitates communication and information

1 sharing between students, school personnel, and first responders in
2 an emergency;

3 (2) providing security for the district, including:

4 (A) employing school district peace officers,
5 private security officers, and school marshals; and

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

10 (3) school safety and security training and planning,
11 including:

12 (A) active shooter and emergency response
13 training;

14 (B) prevention and treatment programs relating
15 to addressing adverse childhood experiences; and

16 (C) the prevention, identification, and
17 management of emergencies and threats, including:

18 (i) providing mental health personnel and
19 support;

20 (ii) providing behavioral health services;

21 and

22 (iii) establishing threat reporting
23 systems; and

24 (4) providing programs related to the social,
25 emotional, and behavioral needs of students, including programs
26 related to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

27 (d) [~~(e)~~] A school district may use funds allocated under

1 this section for equipment or software that is used for a school
2 safety and security purpose and an instructional purpose, provided
3 that the instructional use does not compromise the safety and
4 security purpose of the equipment or software.

5 (e) [~~(d)~~] A school district that is required to take action
6 under Chapter 49 [~~41~~] to reduce its local revenue level [~~wealth per~~
7 ~~student~~] to the [~~equalized wealth~~] level established under Section
8 48.257 is entitled to a credit, in the amount of the allotments to
9 which the district is to receive as provided by appropriation,
10 against the total amount required under Section 49.153 [~~41.093~~] for
11 the district to purchase attendance credit [~~credits~~].

12 (f) [~~(e)~~] The commissioner may adopt rules to implement
13 this section.

14 SECTION 3. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
15 over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021,
16 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted
17 codes.

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