88R202 ANG-D

By:  Toth H.B. No. 360

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring the disclosure of certain information regarding public school teaching materials and activities.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 26, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 26.0061 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.0061.  REQUIRED DISCLOSURE REGARDING TEACHING MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Activity" includes a presentation, assembly, lecture, or other event facilitated by a school district or open-enrollment charter school, other than a student presentation.

(2)  "Teaching material" includes:

(A)  instructional material, as that term is defined by Section 31.002;

(B)  teaching aids; and

(C)  any other material a student is given the option to select for the student's instruction.

(b)  Subject to Subsection (h), not later than the fifth day of each month, each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall make available to the public on the district's or school's Internet website:

(1)  a list disaggregated by subject area and grade level that states all information, including the title, author, organization, or Internet website, as applicable, necessary to identify a teaching material or activity that was assigned, distributed, or otherwise presented to the district's or school's students during the preceding month in:

(A)  a course for which students receive academic credit; or

(B)  an educational event that the district or school requires students to attend or in which a majority of students participate;

(2)  the district's or school's procedures for documenting, reviewing, or approving a teaching material or activity described by Subdivision (1); and

(3)  any changes made in the preceding month to the procedures described by Subdivision (2).

(c)  For purposes of Subsection (b)(1), a school district or open-enrollment charter school is not required to list the individual components of teaching materials produced as a single volume, except that, for a volume that contains works by multiple authors, the district or school shall include in the list under that subsection:

(1)  a table of contents for the volume; or

(2)  a link to an Internet website that discloses the title and author of each work included in the volume.

(d)  Information posted to a school district's or open-enrollment charter school's Internet website under Subsection (b) must be maintained on the website for not less than one year.

(e)  A school district or open-enrollment charter school may use collaborative online document or spreadsheet software to prepare or post on the district's or school's Internet website the information required under Subsection (b).

(f)  If requested by the parents of five or more enrolled students who are not siblings, a school district or open-enrollment charter school shall conduct:

(1)  an administrative review to determine whether the information required to be posted on the district's or school's Internet website under Subsection (b) was posted as required by that subsection; or

(2)  a review of the teaching materials and activities described by Subsection (b) to determine whether each teaching material and activity is:

(A)  appropriate for the grade level at which the material or activity is used; and

(B)  aligned with the essential knowledge and skills for the grade level at which the material or activity is used.

(g)  This section does not require a school district or open-enrollment charter school to reproduce a teaching material or activity described by Subsection (b)(1).

(h)  This section does not apply to:

(1)  a school district or open-enrollment charter school with a student enrollment of less than 300 students; or

(2)  a teaching material or activity described by Subsection (b)(1) that is selected independently by teachers employed at a campus with a student enrollment of less than 50 students for use only at that campus.

SECTION 2.  This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.