By:  Rose H.B. No. 2479

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to parental approval for the participation of certain students in human sexuality instruction in public schools.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 28.004, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (i-2) and adding Subsection (i-4) to read as follows:

(i-2)  Except as provided by Subsection (i-4), before [~~Before~~] a student may be provided with human sexuality instruction, a school district must obtain the written consent of the student's parent. A request for written consent under this subsection:

(1)  may not be included with any other notification or request for written consent provided to the parent, other than the notice provided under Subsection (i); and

(2)  must be provided to the parent not later than the 14th day before the date on which the human sexuality instruction begins.

(i-4)  A student who is homeless or in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services shall be provided with human sexuality instruction unless the student's parent, guardian, or managing conservator, as applicable, requests in writing that the student not be provided the instruction.

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.