

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 917

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to certain public school library materials.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.025. ACCESS TO CERTAIN LIBRARY MATERIALS. (a) In this section, "library material" means any book, record, file, or other instrument or document listed in a school district's or open-enrollment charter school's library catalog.

(b) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may not remove any library material from the district's or school's library catalog. Instead of removing library materials, each school district or open-enrollment charter school shall, in consultation with district or school parents, teachers, and administrators, adopt procedures to create a list of restricted access library materials.

(c) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may not allow a student to access library materials designated as restricted access library materials under Subsection (b) in the catalog of a school library at the district or school unless the district or school first obtains written consent from the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student authorizing the student's access to that library material.

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

1 school year.

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