

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.B. No. 3833

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the duties of a public school counselor.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 33.006(a) and (b), Education Code, are  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The primary responsibility of a school counselor is to  
7 counsel students to fully develop each student's academic, career,  
8 personal, ~~and~~ social, and emotional abilities.

9 (b) In addition to a school counselor's responsibility  
10 under Subsection (a), the school counselor shall:

11 (1) participate in planning, implementing, and  
12 evaluating a comprehensive developmental school counseling  
13 ~~[guidance]~~ program to serve all students and to address the special  
14 needs of students:

15 (A) who are at risk of dropping out of school,  
16 becoming substance abusers, participating in gang activity, or  
17 committing suicide;

18 (B) who are at risk of engaging in harmful or  
19 otherwise inappropriate behaviors in response to personal or  
20 academic problems;

21 (C) who are in need of modified instructional  
22 strategies; or

23 (D) ~~[(C)]~~ who are gifted and talented, with  
24 emphasis on identifying and serving gifted and talented students

1 who are educationally disadvantaged;

2 (2) consult with a student's parent or guardian and  
3 make referrals as appropriate in consultation with the student's  
4 parent or guardian;

5 (3) consult with school staff, parents, and other  
6 community members to help them increase the effectiveness of  
7 student education and promote student success;

8 (4) coordinate people and resources in the school,  
9 home, and community;

10 (5) with the assistance of school staff, interpret  
11 standardized test results and other assessment data that help a  
12 student make educational and career plans;

13 (6) deliver classroom guidance activities or serve as  
14 a consultant to teachers conducting lessons based on the school's  
15 guidance curriculum; and

16 (7) serve as an impartial, nonreporting resource for  
17 interpersonal conflicts and discord involving two or more students,  
18 including accusations of bullying under Section [37.0832](#).

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

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