

By: Paxton

S.B. No. 981

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a handbook on parental rights in education and training
3 requirements on parental rights in education for a member of the
4 board of trustees of a school district.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 11.159, Education Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsection (b-2) to read as follows:

8 (b-2) The State Board of Education shall require a trustee
9 to complete training on the rights of a parent regarding the
10 education of the parent's child. The state board, with assistance
11 from the agency, shall develop the curriculum and materials for the
12 training.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 26, Education Code, is amended by adding
14 Section 26.0025 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 26.0025. PARENTAL RIGHTS HANDBOOK. (a) The agency
16 shall create and maintain a handbook that explains all rights of a
17 parent regarding the education of the parent's child, including a
18 student's rights that the parent may enforce on the student's
19 behalf.

20 (b) The handbook must be:

- 21 (1) written in plain language;
22 (2) updated on an annual basis to reflect any relevant
23 changes in applicable law or agency guidance; and
24 (3) made publicly available in a searchable format on

1 the agency's Internet website.

2 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than January 1, 2024:

3 (1) the State Board of Education shall develop and
4 make available the training required by Section 11.159(b-2),
5 Education Code, as added by this Act; and

6 (2) the Texas Education Agency shall create the
7 parental rights in education handbook required by Section 26.0025,
8 Education Code, as added by this Act.

9 (b) Not later than April 1, 2024, a member of the board of
10 trustees of a school district who takes the oath of office before
11 January 1, 2024, shall complete the training on parental rights in
12 education required by Section 11.159(b-2), Education Code, as added
13 by this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.