

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 462

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the armed security officers required to be present at public schools and the permissible uses of the school safety allotment and the creation of a mental health allotment under the Foundation School Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 37.0814(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A security officer described by Subsection (a) must be:

- (1) a school district peace officer;
- (2) a school resource officer; ~~[or]~~
- (3) a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under Section 37.081; or
- (4) a canine unit, as defined by Section 108.001, Business & Commerce Code.

SECTION 2. Section 48.115, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsections (a-2) and (a-3) to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1) and subject to Subsection (a-2), a school district is entitled to an annual allotment equal to the sum of the following amounts or a greater amount provided by appropriation:

- (1) \$100 [~~\$10~~] for each student in average daily attendance, plus \$1 for each student in average daily attendance

1 per every \$50 by which the district's maximum basic allotment under
2 Section 48.051 exceeds \$6,160, prorated as necessary; and

3 (2) \$100,000 [~~\$15,000~~] per campus.

4 (a-2) To be eligible to receive an allotment under this
5 section, a school district must ensure that:

6 (1) at least one security officer described by Section
7 37.0814(b) armed with a firearm is present at each district campus
8 during regular school hours; and

9 (2) at least one school marshal or security officer
10 described by Section 37.0814(b) who has received training
11 comparable to the training required for a school marshal under
12 Section 1701.260(c), Occupations Code, and is armed with a firearm
13 is appointed, assigned, or employed by the district for every 200
14 students enrolled at the district.

15 (a-3) Requirements under subsection (a-2)(2) can also be
16 met via at least one remote-human-operated aerial device described
17 by Article 2.33(a)(1), Code of Criminal Procedure, deployed or
18 contracted by the district at each district campus providing less
19 lethal interdiction capability by means of air-based irritant
20 delivery or other mechanisms for every 200 students enrolled at the
21 district.

22 (b) Funds allocated under this section must be used to
23 improve school safety and security, including costs associated
24 with:

25 (1) securing school facilities in accordance with the
26 requirements of Section 37.351, including:

27 (A) improvements to school infrastructure;

1 (B) the use or installation of perimeter security
2 fencing conducive to a public school learning environment or
3 physical barriers, which may not include razor wire;

4 (C) exterior door and window safety and security
5 upgrades, including exterior door numbering and locking systems and
6 security film that provides resistance to a forced entry; and

7 (D) the purchase and maintenance of:

8 (i) security cameras and, if the district
9 has already installed security cameras, other security equipment,
10 including video surveillance as provided by Section [29.022](#); and

11 (ii) technology, including communications
12 systems or devices, such as silent panic alert devices, two-way
13 radios, or wireless Internet booster equipment, that facilitates
14 communication and information sharing between students, school
15 personnel, and first responders in an emergency;

16 (2) providing security for the district, including:

17 (A) employing school district peace officers,
18 private security officers, and school marshals; and

19 (B) collaborating with local law enforcement
20 agencies, such as entering into a memorandum of understanding for
21 the assignment of school resource officers to schools in the
22 district;

23 (3) school safety and security measures, including:

24 (A) active shooter and emergency response
25 training;

26 (B) prevention and treatment programs relating
27 to addressing adverse childhood experiences; and

1 (C) the prevention, identification, and
2 management of emergencies and threats, using evidence-based,
3 effective prevention practices and including the establishment of

4 [~~+~~

5 ~~(i) providing licensed counselors, social~~
6 ~~workers, chaplains, and individuals trained in restorative~~
7 ~~discipline and restorative justice practices,~~

8 ~~(ii) providing mental health personnel and~~
9 ~~support, including chaplains,~~

10 ~~(iii) providing behavioral health~~
11 ~~services, including services provided by chaplains,~~

12 ~~(iv)] threat reporting systems; [and~~

13 ~~(v) developing and implementing programs~~
14 ~~focused on restorative justice practices, culturally relevant~~
15 ~~instruction, and providing mental health support, including~~
16 ~~support provided by chaplains,]~~

17 [~~(4) providing programs related to suicide prevention,~~
18 ~~intervention, and postvention, including programs provided by~~
19 ~~chaplains,] and~~

20 (4) [~~(5)] employing a school safety director and other~~

21 personnel to manage and monitor school safety initiatives and the

22 implementation of school safety requirements for the district.

23 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 48, Education Code, is

24 amended by adding Section 48.117 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 48.117. MENTAL HEALTH ALLOTMENT. (a) A school
26 district is entitled to an annual allotment of \$100,000 or a greater
27 amount provided by appropriation to support mental health services

1 at the district.

2 (b) In addition to the allotment under Subsection (a), a
3 school district that receives an allotment under Section 48.101 or
4 at which more than 50 percent of enrolled students are
5 educationally disadvantaged is entitled to an allotment for each
6 student enrolled in the district in an amount provided by
7 appropriation.

8 (c) Funds allocated under this section:

9 (1) must be used to develop or enhance a comprehensive
10 school mental health system that, through the implementation of
11 programs, practices, and procedures in accordance with Section
12 38.351, provides a tiered array of supports and services in the
13 educational setting, including support provided by chaplains, that
14 contribute to:

15 (A) a positive school climate;

16 (B) the development of skills related to managing
17 emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and
18 responsible decision-making;

19 (C) the learning and well-being of students with
20 or at risk of mental health or substance use conditions;

21 (D) family and community engagement;

22 (E) reduced exclusionary discipline practices;

23 and

24 (F) staff wellness; and

25 (2) may be used to pay for costs associated with:

26 (A) the salary of school personnel, including
27 chaplains, responsible for planning, coordinating, delivering, or

1 monitoring supports and services described by Subdivision (1);

2 (B) training school personnel regarding
3 effective practices and district and campus procedures to support
4 student mental health;

5 (C) a contract-based collaborative effort or
6 partnership with one or more local community programs, agencies, or
7 providers, including programs provided by chaplains; and

8 (D) developing and implementing programs focused
9 on restorative justice practices, including programs provided by
10 chaplains.

11 (d) Funds allocated for purposes of this section may not be
12 used to supplant any other funds that may be provided for the same
13 purpose.

14 (e) Not later than June 1 of each year and in accordance with
15 commissioner rule, each school district shall submit to the
16 commissioner information regarding the outcomes and expenditures
17 related to funds allocated to the district under this section.

18 (f) Not later than September 1 of each year, the
19 commissioner shall publish a report regarding the use of funds
20 allocated under this section during the preceding school year,
21 including information regarding the programs, personnel, and
22 resources implemented, employed, or purchased by school districts
23 using the funds and other purposes for which the funds were used.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.