

By: Thompson

H.B. No. 2880

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to providing a designation for school district campuses  
3 that take certain action to address the mental and behavioral  
4 health and well-being of students.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 33, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 33.917 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 33.917. ADVANCING WELLNESS AND RESILIENCY IN EDUCATION  
9 (AWARE) CAMPUS. (a) In this section, "school climate" has the  
10 meaning assigned by Section 38.351(d).

11 (b) The agency shall designate a school district campus as  
12 an Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (AWARE) Campus if  
13 the campus applies and qualifies for the designation under this  
14 section.

15 (c) To qualify as an Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in  
16 Education (AWARE) Campus, a school district campus must:

17 (1) employ a school counselor who spends at least 80  
18 percent of the counselor's total work time on duties included in a  
19 comprehensive school counseling program developed under Section  
20 33.005;

21 (2) maintain formal community partnerships with  
22 community-based mental and behavioral health care providers to  
23 increase student and family access to care, including by  
24 contracting with:

1           (A) a local mental health authority; and

2           (B) the Texas Child Mental Health Care  
3 Consortium;

4           (3) offer training for campus staff members on issues  
5 related to the mental and behavioral health and well-being of  
6 students as required by Sections 21.451, 22.904, 38.036, and 38.351  
7 and maintain documentation of the completion of the training;

8           (4) as part of the safe and supportive school program  
9 implemented under Section 37.115, provide a systemic and  
10 coordinated multitiered support system that addresses school  
11 climate, the social and emotional domain, psychological safety, and  
12 mental and behavioral health, which must include:

13           (A) a multidisciplinary team for the  
14 coordination of campus multitiered support system strategies;

15           (B) the maintenance of a resource list of  
16 available school-based, school-connected, and community-based  
17 mental and behavioral health and well-being interventions and  
18 supports available to students and families;

19           (C) a referral pathway for mental and behavioral  
20 health and well-being interventions and supports available to  
21 students and families in need of additional support outside of  
22 school; and

23           (D) methods to objectively measure positive  
24 school climate in the school; and

25           (5) maintain on the campus's Internet website an  
26 easily accessible web page that includes information on how to  
27 access school-based and community-based mental and behavioral

1 health and well-being interventions and supports available to  
2 students and families, including:

3 (A) counseling and other mental and behavioral  
4 health and well-being support services, including out-of-school  
5 time programs;

6 (B) community-based mental and behavioral health  
7 and well-being support services; and

8 (C) district referral procedures and parental  
9 rights related to students accessing mental and behavioral health  
10 and well-being support services, including information on:

11 (i) parental consent guidelines and  
12 requirements under Sections 33.003, 38.010, and 38.053;

13 (ii) parental access to medical records  
14 under Section 38.0095;

15 (iii) coordinated health programs  
16 available under Section 38.013;

17 (iv) the prohibition on the use of a  
18 parent's refusal to consent to a psychiatric evaluation or  
19 examination as grounds to take certain actions against a child and  
20 the permissible actions under Section 38.016;

21 (v) the district's trauma-informed care  
22 policy under Section 38.036;

23 (vi) the identification of health-related  
24 concerns under Section 38.057;

25 (vii) educational materials provided in  
26 accordance with a procedure developed under Section 38.351(i-1);

27 and

1                   (viii) the consent required for services to  
2 minors under Section 113.0152, Health and Safety Code.

3           (d) To comply with a requirement under Subsection (c)(3),  
4 (4), or (5), a school district campus may partner with the district  
5 to provide:

6                   (1) training required under Subsection (c)(3);

7                   (2) a requirement for the multitiered support system  
8 under Subsection (c)(4); or

9                   (3) if the campus does not have an Internet website, a  
10 web page that meets the requirements of Subsection (c)(5).

11           (e) The agency shall adopt rules as necessary to administer  
12 this section.

13           SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026  
14 school year.

15           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.