

By: Wilson

H.B. No. 4151

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to dissemination of bacterial meningitis information by school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 38.0025(a) and (c), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Department of State Health Services [~~agency~~] shall prescribe procedures by which each school district shall provide information relating to bacterial meningitis to its students and their parents each school year. The procedures must ensure that the information is reasonably likely to come to the attention of the parents of each student. The department [~~agency~~] shall prescribe the form and content of the information. The information must cover:

(1) the symptoms of the disease, how it may be diagnosed, and its possible consequences if untreated;

(2) how the disease is transmitted, how it may be prevented, and the relative risk of contracting the disease for primary and secondary school students;

(3) the availability and effectiveness of vaccination against and treatment for the disease, and a brief description of the risks and possible side effects of vaccination; and

(4) sources of additional information regarding the disease, including any appropriate office of the school district

1 and the appropriate office of the department [~~Texas Department of~~
2 ~~Health~~].

3 (c) A school district, with the written consent of the
4 Department of State Health Services [~~agency~~], may provide the
5 information required by this section to its students and their
6 parents by a method different from the method prescribed by the
7 department [~~agency~~] under Subsection (a) if the department [~~agency~~]
8 determines that method would be effective in bringing the
9 information to the attention of the parents of each student.

10 SECTION 2. Section 38.0025(b), Education Code, is repealed.

11 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
12 school year.

13 SECTION 4. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, the Department of State Health Services shall develop
15 the procedures under Section 38.0025, Education Code, as amended by
16 this Act.

17 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.