

By: West

S.B. No. 1247

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a workgroup to examine the implementation of dating violence awareness and education programs in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 37.0831, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

(c) The commissioner shall establish a workgroup to make recommendations related to ensuring and improving implementation of the dating violence policy required under Subsection (a) in public schools. The workgroup must be composed of:

(1) one member from the agency;

(2) one member from the Texas State Teachers Association;

(3) one member from the Texas American Federation of Teachers;

(4) one member from the Association of Texas Professional Educators;

(5) one member from the Texas Association of School Boards;

(6) one member from the Texas Association of School Administrators;

(7) one member from the Texas School Counselor Association;

1 (8) one member from the Texas Association of Secondary
2 School Principals;

3 (9) one member from the Texas School Nurses
4 Organization;

5 (10) one member from the Texas School Safety Center;

6 (11) one member from the Texas High School Coaches
7 Association;

8 (12) three campus safety officers;

9 (13) four members from family violence centers, as
10 defined by Section 51.002, Human Resources Code, from different
11 geographic regions in this state, including both rural and urban
12 areas;

13 (14) one member from a statewide family violence
14 advocacy organization;

15 (15) one member from a statewide sexual assault
16 advocacy organization;

17 (16) one member from a statewide advocacy organization
18 that serves teenage victims of dating violence;

19 (17) one member from the intake division or the
20 investigation division of the Department of Family and Protective
21 Services;

22 (18) one member from the Parenting and Paternity
23 Awareness program in the office of the attorney general;

24 (19) one member from the family violence program in
25 the Health and Human Services Commission;

26 (20) two members from the Texas Juvenile Justice
27 Department, including one member who has experience with juvenile

1 probation; and

2 (21) one member who is affiliated with a university in
3 the state and has expertise in research on dating violence.

4 (d) The workgroup shall:

5 (1) recommend specific methods of implementing
6 training for educators and school administrators under the policy
7 required by Subsection (a);

8 (2) recommend specific methods of implementing
9 awareness education for parents and students under the policy
10 required by Subsection (a);

11 (3) recommend improvements to the policy required by
12 Subsection (a);

13 (4) propose amendments to Section [11.252](#) that would
14 incorporate into district-level planning and decision making the
15 policy required by Subsection (a);

16 (5) examine the intersection between juvenile justice
17 and youth dating violence;

18 (6) develop strategies for enhancing the safety and
19 security of school campuses in the context of dating violence; and

20 (7) develop specific approaches for the
21 implementation of dating violence training and awareness education
22 in middle schools.

23 (e) The workgroup established under Subsection (c) shall
24 report its recommendations to the legislature not later than
25 September 1, 2016.

26 (f) This subsection and Subsections (c), (d), and (e) expire
27 September 1, 2016.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.