

AN ACT

relating to public school policies designed to prevent dating violence.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 37, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 37.0831 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.0831. DATING VIOLENCE POLICIES. (a) Each school district shall adopt and implement a dating violence policy to be included in the district improvement plan under Section 11.252.

(b) A dating violence policy must:

(1) include a definition of dating violence that includes the intentional use of physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse by a person to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in a dating relationship, as defined by Section 71.0021, Family Code; and

(2) address safety planning, enforcement of protective orders, school-based alternatives to protective orders, training for teachers and administrators, counseling for affected students, and awareness education for students and parents.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 121 was passed by the House on March 14, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 122, Nays 21, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 121 on May 7, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 3, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 121 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 3, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor