

By: Averitt

S.B. No. 1219

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a parenting and paternity awareness component of the health curriculum used in public high schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 28.002(p), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(p) The State Board of Education, in conjunction with the office of the attorney general, shall develop a parenting and paternity awareness program for ~~[that a school district shall]~~ use in a school ~~[the]~~ district's high school health curriculum. The program shall be included in the curriculum for any full-year high school course that meets a requirement for health education credit. At the discretion of a district, the program or part of the program may be included in the curriculum for a high school course lasting less than a full year that meets a requirement for health education credit. The program must:

(1) address parenting skills and responsibilities, including child support and other legal rights and responsibilities that come with parenthood;

(2) address relationship skills, including money management, communication skills, and marriage preparation; and

(3) in district high schools that do not have a family violence prevention program, address skills relating to the prevention of family violence.

1 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
2 school year.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.