

1-1 By: Menéndez S.B. No. 1540
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 5, 2019; March 14, 2019, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 25, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; April 25, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the designation of support services liaison officers at
1-20 public institutions of higher education.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
1-23 amended by adding Section 51.9358 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 51.9358. DESIGNATION OF SUPPORT SERVICES LIAISON
1-25 OFFICER TO ASSIST STUDENTS. (a) In this section:

1-26 (1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher
1-27 Education Coordinating Board.

1-28 (2) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning
1-29 assigned by Section 61.003.

1-30 (b) Each institution of higher education shall designate at
1-31 least one employee of the institution to act as a liaison officer
1-32 for current or incoming students at the institution. The liaison
1-33 officer shall provide to the students comprehensive information
1-34 regarding support services and other resources available to the
1-35 students, including:

1-36 (1) resources to access:

1-37 (A) medical and behavioral health coverage and
1-38 services; and

1-39 (B) public benefit programs, including programs
1-40 related to food security, affordable housing, and housing
1-41 subsidies;

1-42 (2) public benefit program case management assistance
1-43 and counseling;

1-44 (3) parenting and child care resources;

1-45 (4) employment assistance;

1-46 (5) financial counseling and tax preparation
1-47 assistance;

1-48 (6) transportation assistance;

1-49 (7) student academic success strategies; and

1-50 (8) any other resources developed by the institution
1-51 to assist the students.

1-52 (c) An institution of higher education may designate under
1-53 Subsection (b) the same employee to act as liaison officer as the
1-54 employee designated under Section 51.9356 to act as liaison officer
1-55 for current and incoming students at the institution who were
1-56 formerly in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and
1-57 Protective Services.

1-58 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
1-59 academic year.

1-60 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-61 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

2-1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-3 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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