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AN ACT

relating to an assessment of school-based mental health and substance abuse programs.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The Texas Education Agency, in conjunction with the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Texas Department of Health, and the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, shall assess existing school-based mental health and substance abuse programs. The assessment must include recommendations regarding further development of such programs, including the incorporation of information regarding substance abuse prevention, mental health education, and access to related services.

(b) The Texas Education Agency shall report on the results of the assessment to the 79th Legislature not later than January 11, 2005.

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, 2003.

David Newkum

President of the Senate

Tom Cusack

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 491 passed the Senate on March 13, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Patsy Spaul  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 491 passed the House on April 25, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
9:20pm O'CLOCK

MAY 12 2003

Heaven Shea  
Secretary of State