## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1494

By: Ellis

Education 4/11/2007 As Filed

## **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Under current law, a school district is not required to notify parents when a school campus does not have a full-time nurse on duty. In the 2005-2006 school year, there were 7,956 school campuses in Texas, according to the Texas Education Agency. Only 5,304 of these school campuses had full-time nurses on duty.

As proposed, S.B. 1494 requires school principals to notify parents of students if the school does not have a full-time nurse on campus for more than 30 consecutive school days beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. The bill requires that the notice be in writing and be provided within 30 schools days after the first day the school does not have a full-time nurse. The bill requires the school to make a good faith effort to provide a bilingual form of the notice to any parent whose primary language is not English and to retain a copy of the notice.

## **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

## **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter A, Chapter 38, Education Code, by adding Section 38.021, as follows:

Sec. 38.021. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SCHOOL NURSES. (a) Requires a public school that does not have a full-time school nurse assigned to the campus for more than 30 consecutive instructional days during the same school year to provide written notice of the absence of a nurse to the parent of or other person standing in parental relation to each student enrolled in the school.

- (b) Requires the principal of the school to provide the notice required by Subsection (a) not later than the 30th instructional day after the first day the school does not have a full-time school nurse assigned to the campus.
- (c) Requires the school to make a good faith effort to ensure that the notice required by this section is provided in a bilingual form to any parent or other person standing in parental relation whose primary language in not English, and to retain a copy of any notice provided under this section.
- SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective to the 2007-2008 school year.
- SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2007.