84th Texas Legislature:
**HB 2186** Bill Summary As Passed With Implementation Considerations

Topic: Suicide prevention training for educators in public schools.
Author: Rep. Byron Cook (R-Corsicana)

This bill takes effect beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. It is named the Jason Flatt Act in memory of Jonathan Childers. It amends Section 21.451, Education Code, Staff Development Requirements, by adding Subsection (d-1) and (d-2).

The current law lists optional and required topics in staff development training.

House Bill 2186 adds the following requirements to a district’s staff development training:

- Training must include suicide prevention training that must be provided:
  - On an annual basis, as part of a new employee orientation, to all new school district and open-enrollment charter school educators; and
  - To existing school district and open-enrollment charter school educators on a schedule adopted by the agency.
- Training must use a program recommended by the Department of State Health Services in coordination with the Texas Education Agency under Section 161.325, Health and Safety Code.
- Training may be satisfied through independent review of suicide prevention training material that complies with the guidelines developed by the agency; and is offered online.

**Implementation Considerations**

- Identify the appropriate general education department in your district that will be responsible for implementing these requirements.
- Ensure that any similar or related training your department provides aligns with and supports this required training.
- If appropriate, offer resources within your department such as behavior specialists, LSSPs and materials to support the training.

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