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## HB 900 — THE TEXAS BOOK BAN BILL

Through the passage of HB 900, book vendors servicing public schools are now required to submit a list of library materials with a rating system indicating “sexually relevant” or “sexually explicit” content to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) by April 1, 2024. Beginning September 1, 2024, vendors must update the list to TEA not later than September 1 every year thereafter. TEA is required to publish the lists on their website.

- School districts and librarians can operate under existing, approved procurement, collection development and reconsideration policies this school year 2023-24.
- Vendors are responsible for rating library materials, NOT librarians or any other district staff.
- Ratings are only applied to material vendors determine meet the definitions of sexually relevant or sexually explicit as defined by law. A lawsuit has been filed arguing the definitions are too vague and broad to be applied.
- Books and materials rated sexually explicit must be removed, and books rated sexually relevant must have parental consent for a student to check out.

Dates of Interest for HB 900 are as follows:

|                   |   |
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| June 13, 2023     | Signed by Governor Abbott   |
| September 1, 2023 | Effective date  |
| January 1, 2024   | TSLAC mandatory collection development standards, approved by SBOE, final   |
| April 1, 2024     | Vendors provide initial list of materials they rated sexually explicit or sexually relevant to TEA<br><b><i>Materials rated sexually explicit must be removed from school libraries</i></b> |
| September 1, 2024 | Vendors provide updated list of materials they have rated to TEA  |
| January 1, 2025   | School districts review vendor rated sexually relevant material in their current collection and post a report on their website  |