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## SENATE FLOOR ACTION 5.18-25.21

### 5.18.21

**SB 1083 by Campbell: (28:3) passed on local.** *Relating to parental approval for a student's participation in human sexuality instruction in public schools. TSTA was neutral.*

**HB 3395 by Ashby (Sponsor: Hinojosa) Passed unanimously on local calendar.** Would ease ability for our bus drivers to receive their commercial driver's license. TSTA supported.

**HB 1496 by VanDeaver (Sponsor: Lucio) Withdrawn from local calendar.** Would require districts to document management fees paid by or to the district regarding purchasing contracts or programs. TSTA was neutral.

**HB 1080 by Patterson (Sponsor: Nelson) Passed unanimously on local calendar.** Would clarify that students who receive mental health treatment may not be banned from participating in University Interscholastic League activities based solely on their mental health condition. TSTA was neutral. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 785 by Allen (Sponsor: Zaffirini) Passed Unanimously on local calendar.** Would require a review at least annually of behavior improvement or behavioral intervention plans for students with disabilities who were receiving special education services and require a behavioral assessment when a disciplinary action regarding such a student resulted in a change in the student's placement under federal law. TSTA was neutral. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 725 by Patterson (Sponsor: Zaffirini) Passed unanimously on local calendar.** Would expand pre-k eligibility to kids who were in foster care outside of the state before moving to Texas. TSTA supported. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 690 by Metcalf (Sponsor: Zaffirini) Passed unanimously on local calendar.** This bill would have SBOE require trustees to complete training on school safety with curriculum and materials developed in conjunction with the Texas School Safety Center. TSTA was neutral. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 363 by VanDeaver (Sponsor: Perry) Removed from local calendar.** This bill would restrict the use of personally identifiable student information by website operators, online services, online applications or mobile applications used for school purposes. Any operator that has been approved by TEA or provided a product that TEA used would have to use unique identifiers established by the Texas Student Data System or a successor system to mask all personally identifiable student information and enter into a state-required student data agreement and school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, regional service centers, or other local education agencies may require operators they contract with to enter into a state-approved student data sharing agreement. The bill provides some exemptions for national assessment providers. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 189 by Canales: Passed unanimously on local calendar.** This bill would put severance payments to open-enrollment school administrators serving as educational leaders and chief executive officers of schools as though

the person were a superintendent of a school district for purposes of limitations on severance payments. TSTA supported this bill. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

## 5.20.21

**HB 159 by M. Gonzalez (Sponsor: Lucio) Passed to Engrossment (22:8).** Would amend requirements for educator preparation programs and staff development for staff serving students with disabilities. TSTA was neutral. *There were no changes in the Senate.*

**HB 2721 by Lucio III (Sponsor: Lucio): Passed unanimously with 1 floor amendment.** Floor amendment: creates parameters for when the UIL may prohibit a student from participating in future UIL activity. *Recommendation: No Action.* Would provide a mechanism to ban a student from future University Interscholastic League (UIL) events who has assaulted a UIL official. TSTA was neutral.

## 5.21.21

**HB 3979 by Toth (Sponsor: Creighton) Hughes** laid out the bill. Passed (18:13 on party lines). Hughes' Floor amendment (essentially committee substitute) was adopted — this keeps all bad parts of the bill and adds in civics academies for one teacher or admin per campus to come teach all others. Adds in a free speech clause for students, but not teachers. Strips all house amendments. Still has: ban on current events aside from diverse views; no civic engagement for kids; no private funding for continuing professional development. West amendment to include Civil Rights Act was adopted.

**HB 1788 by Hefner (Sponsor: Hughes) (18:13 passes Senate).** Relates to immunity from liability for security personnel. TSTA was neutral. No changes in the Senate.

**HB 750 by Burns (Sponsor: Perry) (31:0 passed).** One amendment adopted by Perry requiring forms to be available on intranet. HB 750 would require a district to post the full text of its employment policy on its website.

**HB 3489 by Parker (Sponsor: Taylor) (31:0 passed).** Relates to development of guidelines for use of digital devices in schools. TSTA was neutral.

**HB 3932 by Bernal (Sponsor: Menendez) (31:0) Passed.** Would create a state advisory council on educational opportunity for Children. TSTA was neutral.

## 5.22.21

**HB 3610\* by Gervin-Hawkins (Sponsor: Springer) (19:11 Senate 5.22), sent to governor 5.21.21.** Would allow a charter school to get a tax break on leases. **TSTA opposed.**

**HB 4279 by Dominguez (Sponsor: Hinojosa) (30:0).** Would expand Career and technical educational opportunities for students enrolled in the Windham School District. Sent to the governor on 5.25. TSTA was neutral.

**HB 547 by Frank (Sponsor: Paxton) (16:14)** Allows for home-schooled students to participate in UIL activities. TSTA was neutral. Senate committee substitute removed House's floor amendment that allows students who are in a school under supervision of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department to compete. It also removed the floor amendment that said that coaches can ask for grades. The bill is permissive.

**HB 3261 by Huberty (Sponsor: Taylor) (29:1).** Would permit the instructional materials allotment to be used to support increasing district capacity to assess online. Taylor added a clarifying amendment.

**HB 30 by Talarico (Sponsor: Whitmire) (30:0).** Would require the Windham School District to develop and provide high school equivalency courses. (Passed Senate 5/22, sent to governor 5/25)

**HB 30 by Talarico (Sponsor: Whitmire) (30:0).** Education requirements for incarcerated students.

## 5.24.21

**HB 3643 by K. King (Sponsor: Taylor) (29:1).** Creates the commission on virtual education. An amendment in the senate said that donations could be accepted for the cause.

**SCR 1 by Stephenson (Sponsor: Kolkhorst) (27:2).** Supports prayers and the use of the word “God” at public gatherings and the display of the Ten Commandments in public educational institutions. .

## 5.25.21

**HB 999 by Bernal (Sponsor: Menendez) (30:1). TSTA supported.** Would permit HS seniors until 22-23 academic year IGCs may be used without considering performance on any EOC assessment. Senate Committee Substitute would limit the bill to the 2021-22 year, with the commissioner able to apply the bill to 22-23 if he so chooses. Floor amendment by Taylor would strike the commissioner authority for 2022-23, so that the bill applies to this year's graduates.

**HB 3456 by White (Sponsor: Eckhardt) (31:0). TSTA Supported.** Would protect school districts’ foundation school program being subject to any budget reductions requested by the LBB or governor.

**HB 246 by Murr (Sponsor: Bettencourt) (31:0).** This bill would define “sexual contact” for purposes of what constitutes an inappropriate relationship between an educator and a student under the penal code. The Senate Committee Substitute would clarify that a school may not release the name of the accused externally until the employee is indicted for the offense.

**HB 3938 by K. Bell (Sponsor: Powell) (31:0).** Creates an industry-based certification advisory council to advise commission on alignment of public high school CTE programs with current and future workforce needs.

**HB 3207 by Herrero (Sponsor: Menendez) (31:0).** Would eliminate penalties for exceeding retire-rehire limitations for retirees during a disaster declaration or local disaster. This bill is not retroactive and is effective September 1, 2021.

**HB 3597 by Metcalf (Sponsor: Paxton) (31:0).** Would discuss policies, procedures, and measures for school safety in public schools. Would create an industry-based certification advisory council.

**SB 1356 by Hughes (Sponsor: Dutton)** Senate refused to concur. Would create a tutoring program for COVID recovery. House amendment would state that there is no liability against a nonprofit teacher organization approved by the commissioner based on the tutoring program. The bill is currently in conference committee.

**SB 288 by Seliger (Sponsor: Wu)** Senate refused to concur. Would ease return-to-work penalties for retirees. House amendments created exceptions for during a disaster declaration. In Conference Committee Currently. **TSTA supported this bill.**