

TSTA/NEA
BILLS SENT TO GOVERNOR
5.24.23
05-24-2023 - 15:15:19
Select All Deselect All

<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 567	Bowers, Rhetta(D) Miles, Borris(D)	Relating to discrimination on the basis of hair texture or protective hairstyle associated with race. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to prohibit a public school district or public institution of higher education from adopting a student dress or grooming policy, including a policy for an extracurricular activity, that discriminates against a hair texture or protective hairstyle commonly or historically associated with race. Bill History: 05-12-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 2:51pm 05-12-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 29/N: 1) 05-16-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 1212	Jetton, Jacey(R) Kolkhorst, Lois(R)	Relating to verification of excused absences from public school for the purpose of observing religious holy days. General Remarks: Permits excused absence for religious reasons with parental note and a school district cannot require a note or documentation from clergy member or other religious leader. Bill History: 05-15-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 2:18pm 05-15-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-18-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 1225	Metcalf, Will(R) Zaffirini, Judith(D)	Relating to the administration of certain required assessment instruments in paper format. General Remarks: Allows for a parent, guardian, or teacher to request administration of an assessment instrument under STAAR be in paper format. There are deadlines to request as follows: September 15 for the fall assessments and December 1 for the spring assessments. The number of students allowed for a paper administration may not exceed three percent of the number of students enrolled in the district, and will be given on a first come first serve basis. This limitation does to apply to a student whose ARD Committee determines a paper assessment is necessary. Bill History: 05-16-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 2:27pm 05-16-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-19-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 1297	Dutton, Harold(D) Birdwell, Brian(R)	Relating to vision screenings for students in public or private school. General Remarks: Would allow electronic eye chart as substitute for printed eye chart to assess visual acuity for students attending public schools. Electronic eye chart means any computerized or other electronic system, device, or method of displaying on an electronic screen medically accepted and property sized optotypes, which may be letters, numbers, or symbols, a health care practitioner or other person uses to assess an individual's visual acuity. It does not include an automated computer program that is a game. Bill History: 05-15-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 4:11pm 05-15-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 30/N: 1) 05-18-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 1789	Buckley, Brad(R) Flores, Pete(R)	Relating to the application of nepotism prohibitions to a person appointed or employed by a school district as a bus driver. General Remarks: Amends current law to exempt from the application of nepotism prohibitions relating to certain publicly funded positions a public school district's appointment or employment of a bus driver that is approved by the district's board of trustees. The bill's provisions apply only to the appointment or employment of a person by a district on or after the bill's effective date. Bill History: 05-16-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 12:23pm 05-16-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-19-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 1959	Noble, Candy(R) King, Phil (F)(R)	Relating to the transfer of certain public school students who are children of peace officers. General Remarks: Requires the board of trustees of a public school district or the board's designee, on request of a peace officer who is a parent or a person standing in parental relation to a student, to transfer the student to another district campus or to another district under an agreement prescribed by statutory provisions governing the transfer of students between districts or counties. In addition, the bill provides the following: - a transfer must be to the campus or district, as applicable, selected by the peace officer making the request; and - a district is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus or district under the bill's provisions. Bill History: 05-16-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 2:46pm 05-16-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 30/N: 1) 05-19-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 2012	Oliverson, Tom(R) Hughes, Bryan(R)	Relating to the display of the national motto in public school and institution of higher education classrooms. General Remarks: The national motto, "In God, We Trust," was established in 1956 by Dwight D. Eisenhower. During the 87th Legislature, SB 797 was passed, which required that donated memorabilia with the national motto must be displayed in the public area of the school where it was gifted. HB 2012 seeks to expand this provision by allowing a teacher to display the national motto in their classroom. Those in favor of HB 2012 believe that the displaying of the national motto serves as a reminder of the values and principles that are foundational to this country. Opponents contest that it may exclude those who do not ascribe to "God" or any religious affiliation, and they question whether or not the display of a poster showing affiliation to the Christian God is a violation of the First Amendment's separation of church and state. Opponents also pointed out the hypocrisy in the way the display of a pride poster would be perceived, in contrast to a poster with a clear religious affiliation. While opponents' concerns are valid, Aronow v. United States of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit rules that the motto does not violate the First Amendment to the Constitution. Further, HB 2012 does not require the display of the national motto but simply doesn't allow the prohibition from displaying it in the classroom should the teachers desire. Bill History: 05-16-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 3:48pm 05-16-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 29/N: 2) 05-22-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 2209	Lozano, Jose(R) Hinojosa, Chuy(D)	Relating to establishing the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program and creating an allotment and outcomes bonus under the Foundation School Program to support the program. General Remarks: Creates an incentive and support for multi-district, cross-sector, rural pathway partnerships that expand opportunities for underserved students to access high-quality, robust college and career pathways that lead to success in school and life while growing the economic development of the region. The bill allows rural districts interested in forming collaborative partnerships with institutions of higher education and businesses to access financial incentives. Only districts with less than 1,600 students are eligible for the program. Caps the program at \$5 million a year (\$10 million a biennium) (see pages 8-9). Can be a district-charter partnership. District would receive the bonus immediately following the year in which the student achieved the outcome that qualifies the district for the bonus. To form a partnership, the districts must be neighboring districts within 100 miles. Allows for the operator to have an advisory committee to include workforce development individuals on it. Amends current law relating to establishing the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program and creating an allotment and outcomes bonus under the Foundation School Program to support the program. Bill History: 05-15-23 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 4:43pm 05-15-23 H House concurred in Senate amendments (Vote: Y:120/N: 23) 05-18-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 2892	Buckley, Brad(R) Middleton, Mayes (F)(R)	Relating to the transfer of certain public school students who are children of certain military servicemembers. General Remarks: Requires the board of trustees of a public school district or the board's designee, on request of a servicemember who is a parent or of person standing in parental relation to a student, to transfer the student to another district campus or to another eligible district. The transfer must be to the campus or district selected by the servicemember. A district is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus or district. The bill defines "servicemember" as an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces, a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces, or the Texas National Guard. Bill History: 05-17-23 S Set on the Local Calendar 05-17-23 S Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-22-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 3803	Cunningham, Charles (F) (R) Paxton, Angela(R)	Relating to allowing parents and guardians to elect for a student to repeat or retake a course or grade. General Remarks: The nature of the school curriculum to build on itself often means that success in later grades is contingent on the mastery of subjects from the years prior. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic learning loss, kids are struggling more than ever to comprehend the foundational concepts of education that carry them successfully through their secondary education. The 87th Legislature passed SB 1697, which gave parents the authority to have their child repeat a high school course or an entire grade level; this legislation expired in 2022 for students in 4th through 8th grade. HB 3803 seeks to continue to give parents the authority to choose whether their student shall repeat a grade by extending the policy to include 4th through 8th graders. HB 3803 strikes out current language regarding the parental election for a student to repeat a grade as it relates to grades 1st through 3rd and expands it to grades 1st through 8th. Additionally, a parent may determine that courses taken during the previous year for high school credit be repeated. A parent or guardian may not choose for their child to repeat a course if the child has already met all the requirements for graduation. Bill History: 05-16-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 3:12pm 05-16-23 S Passed (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-22-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	HB 4210	Lujan, John(R) Campbell, Donna(R)	Relating to the appointment and terms of members of a board of trustees of a military reservation school district. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code relating to the governance of a military reservation school district as follows: - authorizes a person who retires from active duty or civilian service while serving a term as a member of the district board of trustees to continue to serve for the remainder of that person's term; - changes the officer who is required to furnish to the district board the list of persons qualified to serve as members of the board from the commanding officer of the military reservation to the officer who is assigned to serve physically on the installation or military reservation on which the district is located and who provides leadership for the functional support of and contingency or emergency coordination for the district; and - changes from two years to three years the term length of trustees. The bill requires the State Board of Education, as the terms of members expire, to appoint or reappoint members to serve three-year terms in accordance with the bill's provisions. Bill History: 05-17-23 S Set on the Local Calendar 05-17-23 S Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y: 31/N: 0) 05-22-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 68	Zaffirini, Judith(D) Murr, Andrew(R)	Relating to excused absences from public school for certain students to visit a professional's workplace for a career investigation day. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to authorize a public school district to excuse a student in their junior or senior year of high school from attending school for up to two days for a career investigation day to visit a professional at the professional's workplace for the purpose of determining the student's interest in pursuing a career in the professional's field. District must adopt a policy to determine when an absence may be excused for this purpose and a procedure to verify the student's visit at the professional's workplace. Bill History: 05-11-23 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 11:29am 05-11-23 H Passed (Vote: Y:139/N: 4) 05-12-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 294	Johnson, Nathan(D) Klick, Stephanie(R)	Relating to the use of medication designated for treatment of respiratory distress on public and private school campuses. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to revise the policy voluntarily adopted and implemented by a school district, open-enrollment charter school, or private school that provides for the maintenance and administration of asthma medicine at a campus. The bill sets out provisions that, rather than being applicable to asthma medicine in general, are applicable to the use of medication for respiratory distress as defined by the bill. The bill, among other provisions, expands the locations at which such medication may be administered and the people who may administer it, subject to training requirements. Authorizes the administration of medication for respiratory distress by any school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained to administer medication for respiratory distress. Further, removes a school nurse as the sole person authorized to maintain and administer the applicable medicine at any campus in the district or school; and removes a school nurse as the sole person authorized to administer, with the applicable written notification and permission from a parent, prescription asthma medication to a student at a school campus. Bill History: 05-11-23 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 4:07pm 05-11-23 S Senate concurred in House amendments (Vote: Y: 30/N: 0) 05-12-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 361	Eckhardt, Sarah(D) Shine, Hugh(R)	Relating to the eligibility of a person employed by a school district as a teacher to serve on the appraisal review board of an appraisal district. General Remarks: Amends the Tax Code to authorize a person employed as a teacher by a public school district to serve on an appraisal district's appraisal review board (ARB) as a specific exemption to the prohibition against employees of a taxing unit within the district serving as an ARB member. Bill History: 05-19-23 H Passed to third reading on local calendar 05-19-23 H Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:143/N: 0) 05-23-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 798	Middleton, Mayes (F)(R) Buckley, Brad(R)	Relating to the certification requirements for a public school counselor. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to prohibit the qualifications for certification as a school counselor from including a requirement that a candidate for certification have experience as a classroom teacher. The bill requires the State Board of Educator Certification, not later than January 1, 2024, to propose any rules necessary to implement the prohibition. Bill History: 05-17-23 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 12:10pm 05-17-23 H Passed (Vote: Y: 91/N: 52) 05-19-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 838	Creighton, Brandon(R) Thierry, Shawn(D)	Relating to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools providing panic alert devices in classrooms. General Remarks: Texas has the second highest number of school shootings in the United States with more than 135 shooting events since 1970. Many of these attacks have been fatal. On May 24, 2022, 19 students and 2 teachers were fatally shot in a mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. The assailant began his violent shooting spree outside the school, and then locked himself inside two adjoining classrooms, attacking helpless victims whose only defense was to hide. It took law enforcement more than an hour to reach the shooter. Silent panic alert technology would allow for instant notification to law enforcement or medical personnel in the event of an active shooter event or other emergency situation requiring immediate response. Each additional minute waiting for first responders to be notified during a lockdown situation places children, teachers, and school personnel at increased risk of serious injury and death. When silent panic button technology is activated, first responders can react immediately which makes the difference between life or death. Alyssa's Law, requires school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to provide silent panic alert technology in each classroom that allows for immediate contact with district or charter school emergency services and emergency services agencies, law enforcement agencies, health departments, and fire departments. The bill establishes that a district's or charter school's provision of such technology does not satisfy the requirement under statutory provisions relating to multihazard emergency operations plans for a district or charter school to ensure employees have classroom access to a telephone or another electronic communication device. The bill authorizes a district or charter school, in order to comply with the bill's requirement, to use funds provided through the school safety allotment used for the improvement of safety and security or other available funds and use the district's or charter school's customary procurement process. SB 838 applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. Bill History: 04-27-23 G Sent to the Governor 05-05-23 G Signed by the Governor 05-05-23 G Earliest effective date
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 1008	Flores, Pete(R) Buckley, Brad(R)	Relating to establishing residency for purposes of admission into public schools. General Remarks: In 2019, a law was passed allowing students in military families assigned to Texas to enroll in public school before their arrival in order to allow these students to participate in high-demand programs and classes. Due to military families experiencing long lead times to find housing, often taking up to 90 days, which creates a challenge for students in these families to remain enrolled in the same school has created a need to address this issue. Military parents now must provide proof of residence for purposes of public school admission to the district from the 10th day after the arrival date specified in the military transfer order to the 90th day after that arrival date extending current deadline. Bill History: 05-01-23 G Sent to the Governor 05-10-23 G Signed by the Governor 05-10-23 G Earliest effective date
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 1471	Bittencourt, Paul(R) Noble, Candy(R)	Relating to access by the Texas Education Agency and private schools to certain criminal history records. General Remarks: Amends the Government Code to require the Department of Public Safety (DPS), on request by a private school, to determine whether the school is eligible under the federal National Child Protection Act of 1993 to obtain criminal history record information that relates to an employee or an applicant for employment. The bill authorizes a qualified private school to obtain state criminal history record information from DPS. The bill defines a "qualified private school" as a school that offers a course of instruction for students in Texas in one or more grades from prekindergarten through grade 12, is accredited by an organization recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC), and is determined to be eligible by DPS to obtain the information. Bill History: 05-19-23 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 11:02am 05-19-23 H Passed (Vote: Y:143/N: 0) 05-22-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 1506	Hughes, Bryan(R) Clardy, Travis(R)	Relating to a seizure management and treatment plan for the care to be provided by a public school to a student with a seizure disorder. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to require the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to adopt and post on its website, not later than December 1, 2023, a form to be used in submitting a seizure management and treatment plan for a student with a seizure disorder developed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment. Bill History: 05-12-23 H Passed to third reading on local calendar 05-12-23 H Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:140/N: 0) 05-16-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 2032	Creighton, Brandon(R) Buckley, Brad(R)	Relating to the authorization of certain adult high school charter school programs. General Remarks: Expands the entities eligible for a charter to operate an adult education program to include the following entities, if the entity meets other applicable requirements: - a public school district; - an entity granted an open-enrollment charter; or - a general academic teaching institution, public junior college, or public technical institute. The bill authorizes such an entity, to whom a charter is granted, to contract with a nonprofit entity that is an eligible entity to operate an adult education program. The bill specifies that an entity is eligible to be granted a charter for an adult education program if the entity, or a member of the entity's executive leadership, has a successful history of providing education services to adults whose educational and training opportunities have been limited by certain marginalizing circumstances. Requires the commissioner of education to accept applications for a charter to operate an adult education program during the 60-day period beginning on September 1 of each year. The bill requires the commissioner to provide each applicant with the following: - a written notice of the commissioner's preliminary decision to grant or deny the charter and a written explanation of the reasons for denying the charter, if applicable, not later than the 60th day following the last day of the required period for acceptance of applications; and - an opportunity to cure any defects in the application, if applicable. Revises the restrictions on the number of charters for an adult education program authorized to be granted by the commissioner as follows: - removes the prohibition against granting more than two such charters in a calendar year or more than six charters total; - removes prohibition against granting such a charter before September 1, 2023, or a total of more than two charters before September 1, 2024, or four charters before September 1, 2026; and - instead prohibits the commissioner from granting more than 10 charters for adult education programs. Bill History: 05-16-23 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 11:43am 05-16-23 H Passed (Vote: Y:139/N: 0) 05-17-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 2069	Bettencourt, Paul(R) Schaeffer, Matt(R)	Relating to the required posting of signs regarding human trafficking penalties by certain schools. General Remarks: In 2021, the legislature passed S.B. 1831 by Senator Larry Taylor requiring the posting of warning signs of increased human trafficking penalties. This bill removes the requirement that private primary and secondary schools post this signage. Bill History: 05-09-23 G Sent to the Governor 05-19-23 G Filed without signature by the Governor 09-01-23 G Earliest effective date
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 2124	Creighton, Brandon(R) Howard, Donna(D)	Relating to requiring an opt-out policy for accelerated mathematics courses for certain students. General Remarks: Requires school districts to establish an opt-out policy to enroll students who are performing in the top two quintiles (40%) on the fifth grade state standardized assessment or a local measure that includes class score and/or demonstrated proficiency in classwork, into accelerated math in sixth grade to improve chances of gaining access to Algebra I in eighth grade. Bill History: 05-12-23 H Passed to third reading on local calendar 05-12-23 H Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:140/N: 0) 05-16-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 2294	Creighton, Brandon(R) Kuempel, John(R)	Relating to the establishment of certain programs to facilitate early high school graduation and enrollment at public institutions of higher education and to the repeal of the Early High School Graduation. General Remarks: Amends the Education Code to expand the types of institutions of higher education eligible to participate in the Texas First Early High School Completion Program and in the Texas First Scholarship Program from only an institution of higher education designated as a research university or emerging research university under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's accountability system to any public school district or open-enrollment charter school to issue a high school diploma to a student under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program if the student meets the prescribed standards to a requirement for a district or charter school to allow a student to graduate and receive a high school diploma under the program if the student meets the standards. Bill History: 05-12-23 H Passed to third reading on local calendar 05-12-23 H Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:140/N: 0) 05-16-23 G Sent to the Governor
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB 28	Huffman, Joan(R) Herrero, Abel(D)	Urging Congress to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision of the Social Security Act. General Remarks: Urges Congress to repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) provisions to the Social Security Law. The GPO eliminates or reduces the Social Security benefit for spouses, widows or widowers who also receive a government pension based on their own work. The WEP reduces the Social Security benefit for public employees who at some time in their careers were employed in jobs where he paid into Social Security for the period required to qualify for retirement benefits. These provisions deprive thousands of educators and other public workers in Texas of retirement benefits they should receive. TSTA supported this resolution and will continue to work to repeal the GPO and WEP. Bill History: 04-26-23 H Passed (Vote: Y:147/N: 0) 05-01-23 G Sent to the Governor 05-10-23 G Signed by the Governor

All	Track
Total Bills: 24	24

Track(s): (Master List Only)
Position: (None)
Add to Track