

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 692
By: White
Public Education
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

It has been noted with concern that homeless students tend to be disciplined at a disproportionate rate and that out-of-school suspensions for homeless students create more instability for these vulnerable students. H.B. 692 seeks to address this issue by authorizing certain public school employees to identify alternatives to out-of-school suspension for these students.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 692 amends the Education Code to establish that a student who is homeless as defined by federal law may not be placed in out-of-school suspension. The bill authorizes a campus behavior coordinator to coordinate with the public school district's homeless education liaison to identify appropriate alternatives to out-of-school suspension for a student who is homeless. The bill applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2019.