

- SUBJECT:** Designating a cybersecurity coordinator for public school districts
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 13 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Jennifer Bergland, Texas Computer Education Association;  
(*Registered, but did not testify:* Mary Cullinane, League of Women Voters of Texas; Lisa Flores)
- Against — (*Registered, but did not testify:* John Grey, Texas School Alliance)
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Terri Hanson and Eric Marin, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Some have called for a centralized system to address potential cyber attacks on the networks of public school districts.
- DIGEST:** HB 2689 would require the superintendent of each public school district to designate a cybersecurity coordinator to serve as the liaison between the district and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on cybersecurity matters.
- The coordinator would be required to report to TEA any cyber attack, attempted cyber attack, or other cybersecurity incident against the district cyberinfrastructure as soon as practicable after the discovery of the event. Information reported by the coordinator to TEA would be confidential and not subject to disclosure under state public information law.
- The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.