

- SUBJECT:** Providing course work to suspended students
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 13 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Mary Olison, Texas Alliance of Black School Educators; *(Registered, but did not testify:* Cynthia Humphrey, Association of Substance Abuse Programs; Jacquie Benestante, Autism Society of Texas; Chris Masey, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Lisa Flores and Jolene Sanders, Easter Seals Texas; Lauren Rangel, Easter Seals Central Texas; Hannah LaPorte, IDEA Public Schools; Greg Hansch, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Texas; Will Francis, National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter; Josette Saxton, Texans Care for Children; Christine Broughal, Texans for Special Education Reform; Deborah Fowler, Texas Appleseed; Morgan Craven, Texas Latino Education Coalition; Linda Litzinger, Texas Parent to Parent; Suzi Kennon, Texas PTA; Ashley Harris and Nataly Saucedo, United Ways of Texas; and eight individuals)
- Against — *(Registered, but did not testify:* Jerod Patterson, Texas Rural Education Association)
- On — *(Registered, but did not testify:* Pablo Barrera, TCSA; Eric Marin, Melody Parrish, Chris Jones, and Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency; Heather Smith)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code sec. 37.005 allows a school principal or other appropriate administrator to suspend a student who engages in certain conduct identified in the student code of conduct. A suspension may not exceed three school days.
- Some have noted that suspended students miss critical course work and

that providing them with access to instructional materials could help them academically.

DIGEST:

CSHB 3012 would require school districts to provide students who were placed in in-school or out-of-school suspensions with an alternative means of receiving all course work for classes in the foundation curriculum that the student missed as a result of the suspension. A district would have to provide at least one option for receiving the course work that did not require the use of the internet.

The bill would apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.