

**SUBJECT:** Adopting social and emotional learning standards for public schools

**COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 11 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Talarico, VanDeaver

0 nays

1 absent — Ashby

1 present not voting — Sanford

**WITNESSES:** For — Paul Cruz, Austin ISD; Sharon Bradley, Plano ISD; Kelsey Theis, Texas Association of School Psychologists; Kiet Luan; Rudolph Matheny; Mila McCutchen; Peter Price; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Maggie Stern, Children's Defense Fund; Chris Masey, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Steven Aleman, Disability Rights Texas; Jolene Sanders, EasterSeals Central Texas; Brenda Koegler, League of Women Voters of Texas; Greg Hansch and Alissa Sughrue, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Texas; Josette Saxton, Texans Care for Children; Dwight Harris, Texas American Federation of Teachers; Jan Friese, Texas Counseling Association; Mark Terry, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; Jen Ramos, Texas Young Democrats; Nataly Saucedo, United Ways of Texas; and 16 individuals)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Sheila Hemphill, Texas Right To Know; Mary Castle, Texas Values; Nicole Hudgens, Texas Values Action; and eight individuals)

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kelly Kravitz, Eric Marin, and Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency)

**DIGEST:** HB 4454 would require the State Board of Education to adopt developmentally appropriate, evidence-based standards for social and

emotional learning, including standards for the development of competency in self-management, self-awareness, and social awareness for students and responsible decision-making.

School districts would have to provide the standards in appropriate educational programs in each grade level.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.