

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 1154
By: Harris
Education
4-3-97
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires school districts to adopt a student code of conduct, but does not allocate the authority to any specific individual within the district. Recently, a court case challenging this area of the Education Code questioned whether or not the elected school board could delegate this authority to a superintendent or principal. S.B. 1154 requires the student code of conduct for a public school district to be adopted by the elected board of trustees, and any changes to that code to be approved by the board.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1154 outlines provisions regarding adopting and amending a student code of conduct in public schools.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 37.001, Education Code, to require the board of trustees (board) of an independent school district, rather than each school district, with the advice of its district-level committee and with the juvenile board of each county in which the district is located, to adopt a student code of conduct for the district. Requires any change or amendment to be approved by the board of trustees, or the superintendent, providing that the board has authorized the superintendent to do so, once the student code of conduct is promulgated. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amendment 1.

Page 2, line 12, amend Section 37.001, Education Code, to add ", or the superintendent, providing that the board of trustees has authorized the superintendent to do so" after "trustees."