

AN ACT

relating to establishing a system for the sharing of information regarding cyber attacks or other cybersecurity incidents occurring in schools in this state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 11.175, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 11.175. SCHOOL [~~DISTRICT~~] CYBERSECURITY.

SECTION 2. Section 11.175, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsections (g), (h), and (i) to read as follows:

(e) A school district or open-enrollment charter school [~~The district's cybersecurity coordinator~~] shall report to the agency or, if applicable, the entity that administers the system established under Subsection (g) any cyber attack or other cybersecurity incident against the school district's or open-enrollment charter school's [~~district~~] cyberinfrastructure that constitutes a breach of system security as soon as practicable after the discovery of the attack or incident.

(g) The agency, in coordination with the Department of Information Resources, shall establish and maintain a system to coordinate the anonymous sharing of information concerning cyber attacks or other cybersecurity incidents between participating schools and the state. The system must:

1           (1) include each report made under Subsection (e);

2           (2) provide for reports made under Subsection (e) to  
3 be shared between participating schools in as close to real time as  
4 possible; and

5           (3) preserve a reporting school's anonymity by  
6 preventing the disclosure through the system of the name of the  
7 school at which an attack or incident occurred.

8           (h) In establishing the system under Subsection (g), the  
9 agency may contract with a qualified third party to administer the  
10 system.

11           (i) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to  
12 implement this section.

13           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1696 passed the Senate on April 20, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 3; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 29, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 26, Nays 4.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1696 passed the House, with amendment, on May 26, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, one present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor