

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 37
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 14, 2022; February 15, 2023,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;
 1-4 March 23, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,
 1-5 Nays 0; March 23, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the criminal offense of hazing.
 1-18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-19 SECTION 1. Section 37.152(a), Education Code, is amended to
 1-20 read as follows:
 1-21 (a) A person commits an offense if the person:
 1-22 (1) engages in hazing;
 1-23 (2) solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts
 1-24 to aid another in engaging in hazing;
 1-25 (3) recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
 1-26 (4) has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a
 1-27 specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational
 1-28 institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing
 1-29 incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge
 1-30 [~~in writing~~] to the dean of students or other appropriate official
 1-31 of the institution, a peace officer, or a law enforcement agency.
 1-32 SECTION 2. Section 37.155(b), Education Code, is amended to
 1-33 read as follows:
 1-34 (b) Any person, including an entity organized to support an
 1-35 organization, who voluntarily reports a specific hazing incident
 1-36 involving a student in an educational institution to the dean of
 1-37 students or other appropriate official of the institution, a peace
 1-38 officer, or a law enforcement agency is immune from civil or
 1-39 criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a
 1-40 result of the reported hazing incident if the person:
 1-41 (1) reports the incident before being contacted by the
 1-42 institution or a law enforcement agency concerning the incident or
 1-43 otherwise being included in the institution's or a law enforcement
 1-44 agency's investigation of the incident; and
 1-45 (2) [~~as determined by the dean of students or other~~
 1-46 ~~appropriate official of the institution designated by the~~
 1-47 ~~institution,~~] cooperates in good faith throughout:
 1-48 (A) any institutional process regarding the
 1-49 incident, as determined by the dean of students or other
 1-50 appropriate official of the institution designated by the
 1-51 institution; or
 1-52 (B) any law enforcement agency's investigation
 1-53 regarding the incident, as determined by the chief or other
 1-54 appropriate official of the law enforcement agency designated by
 1-55 the law enforcement agency.
 1-56 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
 1-57 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
 1-58 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
 1-59 governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and
 1-60 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
 1-61 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the

2-1 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was
2-2 committed before that date.

2-3 SECTION 4. Section 37.155, Education Code, as amended by
2-4 this Act, applies only to a civil cause of action that accrues on or
2-5 after the effective date of this Act. An action that accrued before
2-6 the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect at
2-7 the time the action accrued, and that law is continued in effect for
2-8 that purpose.

2-9 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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