

By: Eissler

H.B. No. 31

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the ability of public school employees to communicate
3 with members of a school district board of trustees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 11.163, Education Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

7 (f) The employment policy must:

8 (1) permit school district employees to communicate
9 directly with a member of the board of trustees without restriction
10 regarding a matter relating to the operation of the district; and

11 (2) provide that a trustee receiving a communication
12 from a district employee may keep the identity of the employee
13 confidential.

14 (g) A member of the board of trustees may inquire about the
15 substance of a communication from a district employee at a board of
16 trustees meeting. The inquiry is subject to Section 551.042,
17 Government Code, except that:

18 (1) the notice provisions of Chapter 551, Government
19 Code, do not apply to an inquiry, proposal, or decision made under
20 this subsection; and

21 (2) a trustee may propose, and a majority of the
22 trustees may decide, that the substance of the inquiry be
23 investigated and reported to the board at a subsequent meeting.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
5 legislative session.