

By: Zedler

H.B. No. 1607

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the dissemination of false or misleading information by
3 a professional association or organization for educators;
4 providing a civil penalty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 21, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 21.4081 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 21.4081. DISSEMINATION OF FALSE OR MISLEADING
9 INFORMATION BY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION. (a) A professional
10 association or organization for educators may not disseminate any
11 form of false or misleading information, including information that
12 omits relevant facts in order to elicit a particular opinion.

13 (b) The office of the attorney general may take any action
14 necessary to enforce this section, including by imposing a civil
15 penalty on a professional association or organization for educators
16 that violates this section.

17 (c) The attorney general shall adopt rules necessary to
18 administer this section.

19 SECTION 2. Section 21.4081, Education Code, as added by
20 this Act, applies only to information disseminated by a
21 professional association or organization for educators on or after
22 the effective date of this Act. Information disseminated by a
23 professional association or organization for educators before the
24 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the

1 information was disseminated, and the former law is continued in
2 effect for that purpose.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.