

1-1 By: Gallegos S.B. No. 208  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 16, 2010; January 31, 2011,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;  
1-4 April 11, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 11, 2011,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 208 By: Gallegos

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to public notice and forums concerning finalists for the  
1-11 position of superintendent of a school district.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 11, Education Code, is  
1-14 amended by adding Section 11.1514 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 11.1514. SUPERINTENDENT: PUBLIC NOTICE OF FINALISTS  
1-16 AND PUBLIC FORUM. (a) In accordance with Section 552.126,  
1-17 Government Code, the board of trustees of a school district shall  
1-18 give public notice of the name of each finalist the board is  
1-19 considering for the position of superintendent of the district.

1-20 (b) A board of trustees considering superintendent  
1-21 finalists may hold one or more limited public forums at which,  
1-22 except as provided by Subsection (c), each finalist shall speak and  
1-23 parents of district students, teachers, and other community members  
1-24 may offer relevant information and opinions and ask relevant  
1-25 questions of any of the finalists. The board may establish  
1-26 procedures for the public forum, including establishment of a  
1-27 reasonable maximum time limit for each speaker.

1-28 (c) A finalist is not required to speak at a public forum  
1-29 under Subsection (b) if the finalist is absent from the forum  
1-30 because of:

1-31 (1) a death in the finalist's family; or  
1-32 (2) the illness of the finalist or of an immediate  
1-33 family member of the finalist.

1-34 (d) The board shall give public notice of the subject  
1-35 matter, time, date, and place of a public forum not later than the  
1-36 fifth business day before the date the public forum is to be held.

1-37 SECTION 2. Section 552.126, Government Code, is amended to  
1-38 read as follows:

1-39 Sec. 552.126. EXCEPTION: NAME OF APPLICANT FOR  
1-40 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT. The name of an applicant  
1-41 for the position of superintendent of a public school district is  
1-42 excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021, except that the  
1-43 board of trustees must give public notice of the name or names of  
1-44 the finalists being considered for the position at least 30 [~~21~~]  
1-45 days before the date of the meeting at which a final action or vote  
1-46 is to be taken on the employment of the person.

1-47 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies with  
1-48 respect to a meeting held after October 31, 2011, at which the board  
1-49 of trustees of a school district is to take a final action or vote on  
1-50 the employment of a finalist as superintendent.

1-51 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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