

1-1 By: Rodriguez S.B. No. 121
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 12, 2012; January 29, 2013,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Open Government;
 1-4 April 2, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 3, Nays 1; April 2, 2013,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

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

1-14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 121 By: Davis

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

1-17 relating to prohibited retaliation against certain state or local
 1-18 public employees for reporting to certain persons violations of
 1-19 law.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 554.002, Government Code, is amended by
 1-22 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

1-23 (a-1) In addition to the prohibitions under Subsection (a),
 1-24 a school district, including a home-rule school district, or a
 1-25 public school, including any school for which a charter has been
 1-26 granted under Chapter 12, Education Code, located in a county with a
 1-27 population of 800,000 or more that borders the United Mexican
 1-28 States may not suspend or terminate the employment of, or take other
 1-29 adverse personnel action against, a district or school employee who
 1-30 in good faith reports in writing a violation of law by the district
 1-31 or school or another district or school employee to:

1-32 (1) a person to whom the employee is required by law or
 1-33 policy to report allegations of misconduct by other district or
 1-34 school employees; or

1-35 (2) the human resources director of the reporting
 1-36 employee's campus or district or the human resource director's
 1-37 designee.

1-38 SECTION 2. Subsection (b), Section 554.009, Government
 1-39 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-40 (b) The attorney general shall prescribe the design and
 1-41 content of the sign required by this section. The sign must be
 1-42 written in English and Spanish and include:

1-43 (1) the description of an appropriate law enforcement
 1-44 authority under Section 554.002(b); and

1-45 (2) a statement summarizing a public employee's right
 1-46 to sue under this chapter.

1-47 SECTION 3. Section 554.002, Government Code, as amended by
 1-48 this Act, applies only to a personnel action taken on or after the
 1-49 effective date of this Act against an employee who reports a
 1-50 violation of law, regardless of the date on which the alleged
 1-51 violation of law occurred or was reported.

1-52 SECTION 4. (a) The attorney general shall design the sign
 1-53 required by Section 554.009, Government Code, as amended by this
 1-54 Act, not later than October 1, 2013.

1-55 (b) Each state or local governmental entity shall post the
 1-56 sign required by Section 554.009, Government Code, as amended by
 1-57 this Act, not later than November 1, 2013.

1-58 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-59 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-60 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

2-1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-2 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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