

1-1 By: Taylor of Galveston S.B. No. 2141
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2017; March 29, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; May 9, 2017,
 1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0;
 1-5 May 9, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor of Galveston	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Campbell	X			
1-11 Hall	X			
1-12 Huffines	X			
1-13 Hughes	X			
1-14 Seliger	X			
1-15 Taylor of Collin	X			
1-16 Uresti	X			
1-17 West	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to requirements for a representative for a student in a
 1-22 special education due process hearing.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 29.0162, Education Code, is amended by
 1-25 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (e) to read as
 1-26 follows:

1-27 (b) The commissioner by rule shall adopt additional
 1-28 qualifications and requirements for ~~required of~~ a representative
 1-29 for purposes of Subsection (a)(2). The rules must:

1-30 (1) prohibit an individual from being a representative
 1-31 under Subsection (a)(2) opposing a school district if:

1-32 (A) the individual has prior employment
 1-33 experience with the district; and

1-34 (B) the district raises an objection to the
 1-35 individual serving as a representative; ~~and~~

1-36 (2) include requirements that the representative have
 1-37 knowledge of:

1-38 (A) special education due process rules,
 1-39 hearings, and procedure; and

1-40 (B) federal and state special education laws;

1-41 (3) require that the representative agree to abide by
 1-42 a voluntary code of ethics and professional conduct during the
 1-43 period of representation; and

1-44 (4) require that the representative enter into a
 1-45 written agreement for representation with the person who is the
 1-46 subject of the special education due process hearing that includes
 1-47 a process for resolving any disputes between the representative and
 1-48 the person.

1-49 (e) The written agreement for representation required under
 1-50 Subsection (b)(4) is considered confidential and may not be
 1-51 disclosed unless otherwise required by law.

1-52 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
 1-53 school year.

1-54 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-55 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-56 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-57 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-58 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

1-59 * * * * *