

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.B. No. 449

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a requirement that a public or private institution of  
3 higher education include a disciplinary notation on a student's  
4 transcript under certain circumstances.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 51.9364 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.9364. CERTAIN DISCIPLINARY NOTATIONS REQUIRED ON  
9 STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS. (a) In this section, "postsecondary  
10 educational institution" means an institution of higher education  
11 or a private or independent institution of higher education, as  
12 those terms are defined by Section 61.003.

13 (b) If a postsecondary educational institution suspends or  
14 expels a student from the institution for any reason, the  
15 institution shall include on the student's transcript a  
16 disciplinary notation stating that the student was suspended or  
17 expelled, as applicable, from the institution.

18 (c) If a student withdraws from a postsecondary educational  
19 institution pending disciplinary charges that may result in the  
20 student's suspension or expulsion from the institution, the  
21 institution may not end the disciplinary process until the  
22 institution makes a final determination of responsibility,  
23 including, if applicable, a determination of whether to suspend or  
24 expel the student from the institution as a result. If the

1 institution suspends or expels the student from the institution,  
2 the institution shall include a disciplinary notation on the  
3 student's transcript stating that the student was suspended or  
4 expelled, as applicable, from the institution.

5 (d) On request by the student, a postsecondary educational  
6 institution may remove from a student's transcript a disciplinary  
7 notation indicating the student's suspension or expulsion, as  
8 applicable, from the institution if the institution determines  
9 that:

10 (1) each condition of the suspension has been  
11 fulfilled, if applicable; or

12 (2) good cause exists to remove the notation.

13 (e) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
14 adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

15 SECTION 2. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
16 shall adopt the rules required by Section 51.9364, Education Code,  
17 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act takes  
18 effect.

19 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies  
20 beginning with the 2019 fall semester.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.