

By: Allen

H.B. No. 3263

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the protection of an employee of an open-enrollment charter school who reports a violation of law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 554.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 554.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Law" means:

(A) a state or federal statute;

(B) an ordinance of a local governmental entity;

or

(C) a rule adopted under a statute or ordinance.

(2) "Local governmental entity" means a political subdivision of the state, including ~~[a]~~:

(A) a county;

(B) a municipality;

(C) a public school district; ~~[or]~~

(D) a special-purpose district or authority; or

(E) an open-enrollment charter school.

(3) "Personnel action" means an action that affects a public employee's compensation, promotion, demotion, transfer, work assignment, or performance evaluation.

(4) "Public employee" means an employee or appointed officer other than an independent contractor who is paid to perform

1 services for a state or local governmental entity.

2 (5) "State governmental entity" means:

3 (A) a board, commission, department, office, or
4 other agency in the executive branch of state government, created
5 under the constitution or a statute of the state, including an
6 institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003,
7 Education Code;

8 (B) the legislature or a legislative agency; or

9 (C) the Texas Supreme Court, the Texas Court of
10 Criminal Appeals, a court of appeals, a state judicial agency, or
11 the State Bar of Texas.

12 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a
13 suspension or termination of employment of a public employee or to
14 other adverse personnel action taken against an employee on or
15 after the effective date of this Act. A suspension or termination
16 of employment of a public employee or other adverse personnel
17 action against the employee that is take before the effective date
18 of this Act is governed by the law existing on the date the
19 suspension, termination, or other adverse personnel action
20 occurred, and the former law is continued in effect for that
21 purpose.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.