

AN ACT

relating to the ability of public school teachers to maintain student discipline without being subjected to adverse employment consequences.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21.351, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) In adopting criteria described by Subsection (a)(1), the commissioner shall ensure that a teacher may not be assigned an area of deficiency in an appraisal solely on the basis of disciplinary referrals made by the teacher or documentation regarding student conduct submitted by the teacher under Section 37.002. This subsection does not prohibit a teacher from being assigned an area of deficiency based on documented evidence of a deficiency in classroom management obtained through observation or a substantiated report.

SECTION 2. Section 21.352, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A school district may not assign an area of deficiency to a teacher solely on the basis of disciplinary referrals made by the teacher or documentation regarding student conduct submitted by the teacher under Section 37.002. This subsection does not prohibit a teacher from being assigned an area of deficiency based on documented evidence of a deficiency in classroom management

1 obtained through observation or a substantiated report.

2 SECTION 3. Section 37.002, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsections (b-1) and (e) to read as follows:

4 (b-1) A teacher may document any conduct by a student that
5 does not conform to the student code of conduct adopted under
6 Section 37.001 and may submit that documentation to the principal.
7 A school district may not discipline a teacher on the basis of
8 documentation submitted under this subsection.

9 (e) A student who is sent to the campus behavior
10 coordinator's or other administrator's office under Subsection (a)
11 or removed from class under Subsection (b) is not considered to have
12 been removed from the classroom for the purposes of reporting data
13 through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS)
14 or other similar reports required by state or federal law.

15 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
16 school year.

17 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1451 passed the Senate on April 11, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 25, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1451 passed the House, with amendment, on May 22, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 124, Nays 20, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor