

1-1 By: González of El Paso, et al. H.B. No. 129
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 21, 2021;
 1-4 May 10, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Education; May 24, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-6 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 3;
 1-7 May 24, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9 Taylor	X			
1-10 Lucio			X	
1-11 Bettencourt		X		
1-12 Hall	X			
1-13 Hughes	X			
1-14 Menéndez	X			
1-15 Paxton	X			
1-16 Perry		X		
1-17 Powell	X			
1-18 Schwertner		X		
1-19 West			X	

1-21 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 129 By: Menéndez

1-22 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-23 AN ACT

1-24 relating to digital citizenship instruction in public schools.
 1-25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-26 SECTION 1. Section 28.002(z), Education Code, is amended to
 1-27 read as follows:
 1-28 (z) The State Board of Education by rule shall require each
 1-29 school district to incorporate instruction in digital citizenship
 1-30 into the district's curriculum, including information regarding
 1-31 the potential criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and require
 1-32 students enrolled in grade level six to complete instruction in
 1-33 digital citizenship as part of the district's social studies
 1-34 curriculum. In this subsection:
 1-35 (1) "Cyberbullying" has the meaning assigned by
 1-36 Section 37.0832.
 1-37 (2) "Digital citizenship" means the standards of
 1-38 appropriate, responsible, and healthy online behavior, including:
 1-39 (A) the ability to access, analyze, evaluate,
 1-40 create, and act on all forms of digital communication;
 1-41 (B) digital ethics, etiquette, respectful
 1-42 discourse with people who have differing opinions, safety,
 1-43 security, digital footprint, and the identification of rhetoric
 1-44 that incites violence;
 1-45 (C) cyberbullying prevention and response; and
 1-46 (D) the importance of the right to freedom of
 1-47 speech contained in the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the
 1-48 United States, including:
 1-49 (i) the central role that the right to
 1-50 freedom of speech has in the history of the United States; and
 1-51 (ii) the applicability of protections for
 1-52 freedom of speech for online interaction.
 1-53 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
 1-54 school year.
 1-55 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-56 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-57 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-58 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-59 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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