

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1595

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of corporal punishment in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Section 37.0011, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(b) If the board of trustees of an independent school district adopts a policy under Section 37.001(a)(8) under which corporal punishment is permitted as a method of student discipline, a district educator may not use corporal punishment to discipline a student unless:

(1) the student's parent or guardian or other person having lawful control over the student has previously provided a written, signed statement permitting [~~prohibiting~~] the use of corporal punishment as a method of student discipline; and

(2) if the student receives special education services under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the use of corporal punishment is authorized under the student's individualized education program.

(c) To permit [~~prohibit~~] the use of corporal punishment as a method of student discipline, each school year a student's parent or guardian or other person having lawful control over the student must provide a separate written, signed statement to the board of trustees of the school district in the manner established by the board.

1       (e) A school district shall report through the district's  
2 Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS):

3           (1) whether the board of trustees adopted a policy  
4 under Section 37.001(a)(8) under which corporal punishment is  
5 permitted as a method of student discipline; and

6           (2) a description, including the manner and  
7 circumstances, of each use of corporal punishment as a method of  
8 student discipline by a district educator under Subsection (b).

9       SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022  
10 school year.

11       SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.