

House Bill 2721
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Section 33.081, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) and amending Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

(e-1) A student who is enrolled in a school district in this state or who participates in a University Interscholastic League competition shall be prohibited from participation in any future extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district or the University Interscholastic League if the student engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of assault under Section 22.01(a)(1), Penal Code:
(1) against a person serving as referee, judge, or other official of an extracurricular activity; and
(2) in retaliation for or as a result of the person's actions taken in performing the duties of a referee, judge, or other official of the extracurricular activity.

SENATE VERSION (IE)

SECTION 1. Section 33.081, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (e-1), (e-2), (e-3), (e-4), and (h) and amending Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows: [FA1(1)]
(e-1) A student who is enrolled in a school district in this state or who participates in a University Interscholastic League competition shall be prohibited from participation in any future extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the school district or the University Interscholastic League if the state executive committee of the league determines that the student intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to a person serving as referee, judge, or other official of an extracurricular activity in retaliation for or as a result of the person's actions taken in performing the duties of a referee, judge, or other official of the extracurricular activity. [FA1(2)]

(e-2) A student prohibited from participation in an extracurricular activity under Subsection (e-1) may submit to the University Interscholastic League a request that the student be permitted to participate in future extracurricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League if:

(1) the request is submitted at least:

(A) one year after the date the student engaged in the conduct that resulted in the prohibition under Subsection (e-1) if the student was enrolled in eighth grade or below at the time of the conduct; or

(B) two years after the date the student engaged in the conduct that resulted in the prohibition under Subsection (e-1) if the student was enrolled in ninth grade or above at the time of the conduct;

(2) the student:

(A) completed a course in anger management since engaging

CONFERENCE

House Bill 2721
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SENATE VERSION (IE)

CONFERENCE

in the conduct that resulted in the prohibition under Subsection (e-1);

(B) completed any other course, activity, or action required by the school district in which the student is enrolled as a result of the conduct that resulted in the prohibition under Subsection (e-1); and

(C) demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the school district and the University Interscholastic League, that the student has been rehabilitated and is unlikely to again engage in the conduct described by Subsection (e-1); and

(3) a previous request submitted by the student under this section has not been denied during the school year in which the request is submitted.

(e-3) When determining whether to grant a request under Subsection (e-2), the University Interscholastic League:

(1) shall take into account the severity of the conduct that resulted in the prohibition under Subsection (e-1); and

(2) may set conditions for the student's future participation in extracurricular activities.

(e-4) The University Interscholastic League may prohibit a student from participating in any future extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League if the student violates a condition set by the University Interscholastic League under Subsection (e-3)(2). [FA1(3)]

(f) Except for a student prohibited from participation under Subsection (e-1), a [A] student suspended under this section may practice or rehearse with other students for an extracurricular activity but may not participate in a competition or other public performance.

(g) An appeal to the commissioner is not a contested case under Chapter 2001, Government Code, if the issues presented

(f) Except for a student prohibited from participation under Subsection (e-1), a [A] student suspended under this section may practice or rehearse with other students for an extracurricular activity but may not participate in a competition or other public performance.

(g) An appeal to the commissioner is not a contested case under Chapter 2001, Government Code, if the issues presented

House Bill 2721
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

relate to a student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, including issues related to the student's grades, [or] the school district's grading policy as applied to the student's eligibility, or the student's eligibility based on conduct described by Subsection (e-1). The commissioner may delegate the matter for decision to a person the commissioner designates. The decision of the commissioner or the commissioner's designee in a matter governed by this subsection may not be appealed except on the grounds that the decision is arbitrary or capricious. Evidence may not be introduced on appeal other than the record of the evidence before the commissioner.

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

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

SENATE VERSION (IE)

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(h) A request made under Subsection (e-2) is not a contested case subject to Chapter 2001, Government Code. [FA1(4)]

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

SECTION 3. Same as House version.

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