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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 798 |
| By: Middleton |
| Public Education |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Many public school districts include classroom teaching experience among requirements to become a certified school counselor. These requirements have created an unnecessary barrier to entry for prospective school counselors. S.B. 798 seeks to prohibit the inclusion of a requirement that a candidate have experience as a classroom teacher as a qualification for certification as a school counselor. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the State Board for Educator Certification in SECTION 2 of this bill. |
| **ANALYSIS**  S.B. 798 amends the Education Code to prohibit the qualifications for certification as a school counselor from including a requirement that a candidate for certification have experience as a classroom teacher. The bill requires the State Board for Educator Certification, not later than January 1, 2024, to propose any rules necessary to implement the prohibition. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2023. |