

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 2510
By: Cain
Public Education
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

There are concerns regarding the transparency of contracts involving school districts in Texas, including that public school districts may be entering into contracts without competitive bidding, which could lead to higher costs, lower-quality vendors, or other issues that could negatively impact the district's finances and the quality of education provided to students. C.S.H.B. 2510 seeks to address these concerns and increase transparency by requiring a district to post on its website information about each contract for which the district did not use competitive bidding to select a vendor.

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 this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 2510 amends the Education Code to require the board of trustees of a public school district to post on the district's website information regarding each contract for which the district did not use competitive bidding to select a vendor, including the amount to be paid by the district under the contract, the person to whom the contract is awarded, and the duration of the contract.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2023.

COMPARISON OF INTRODUCED AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 2510 may differ from the introduced in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

The substitute omits provisions in the introduced, applicable to lawsuits against a district filed on or after the bill's effective date, that establish procedures that a school district and the Texas Education Agency must follow in relation to a dispute over the amount of property taxes owed to the district, a violation of parental rights, the acquisition of property, a dispute between the district and a district employee, or a due process complaint against a school district alleging a violation of federal or state special education laws.