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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 326 |
| By: King |
| State Affairs |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  The bill sponsor has informed the committee that incidents of antisemitic harassment, discrimination, and violence have been on the rise across the country in recent years, creating a hostile environment for Jewish students and undermining the principles of equality and safety in education. Although current law prohibits discrimination in many settings, there is no procedure for determining whether a violation of a school's or university's student code of conduct was motivated by antisemitism. The bill sponsor has further informed the committee that without clear guidelines, these incidents may be misclassified, inconsistently addressed, or ignored, leaving Jewish students vulnerable to targeted harassment and bias‑motivated misconduct. S.B. 326 seeks to address this issue and ensure appropriate disciplinary action and accountability for these incidents by establishing a procedure for determining whether a student's violation of a public school's or institution of higher education's code of conduct was motivated by antisemitism. |
| **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**  S.B. 326 amends the Education Code to require a public school district, open-enrollment charter school, and a public institution of higher education, in taking disciplinary action against a student for behavior that violates the applicable entity's student code of conduct and that may reasonably be determined to have been motivated by antisemitism, to use the definition of antisemitism provided by Government Code provisions establishing the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission, including the examples referenced in that term, in determining whether the student's behavior was motivated by antisemitism.  S.B. 326 applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year with respect to school districts and charter schools and beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year with respect to institutions of higher education. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2025. |