

HB 2992 A -A3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Meeting Dates: 6/28, 6/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires each school district board and public charter school governing body that allows volunteers to have direct and unsupervised contact with students to create policy requiring criminal records check of those volunteers. Allows private school governing bodies to adopt such a policy. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die, but measure's provisions are operative on January 1, 2018.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History and intention behind the drafted legislation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A3 Requires public school districts or public charter schools to adopt and implement a policy to require volunteers to undergo a background check. Permits private schools to adopt and implement a policy to require volunteers to undergo a background check. Expands existing school volunteer and employment background check law to permit the option of a nationwide criminal records check conducted the the Department of Education.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, a school district, private school or public charter school may conduct a criminal record check on a volunteer, if the volunteer consents, using the Law Enforcement Data System. House Bill 2992-A requires that each school district board and public charter school governing body that allows volunteers to have direct and unsupervised contact with school children develop a policy that requires this criminal record check. It also allows the governing body of a private school to adopt this same policy. HB 2992-A is operative on January 1, 2018. However, HB 2992-A allows a school district board, public charter school governing body or private school governing body to take necessary action prior to that date.