

HB 2631 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Drazan

House Committee On Education**Action Date:** 04/01/21**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 10-0-0-0**Yeas:** 10 - Alonso Leon, Hudson, Neron, Owens, Reardon, Ruiz, Smith DB, Sollman, Weber, Wright**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 3/2, 4/1**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires school district to adopt policies that require school officials to notify parents or guardians of students who were subject to acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or cyberbullying and the parents or guardians of students who may have conducted such acts. Requires notification to occur with involvement and consideration of the needs and concerns of the student victim. Establishes notification requirements and exception when school official reasonably believes notification could endanger student. Establishes requirements for exception to be invoked and requirement that student be notified that federal law may require parents to have access to education records. Requires notification be provided within a reasonable period of time or promptly, for acts that caused physical harm. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Student privacy concerns
- Harassment, intimidation, bullying, and cyberbullying events

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces section 1 of the measure. Requires school district to adopt policies that require school officials to notify parents or guardians of students who were subject to acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying, or cyberbullying and the parents or guardians of students who may have conducted such acts. Requires notification to occur with involvement and consideration of the needs and concerns of the student victim. Establishes notification requirements and exception when school official reasonably believes notification could endanger student. Establishes requirements for exception to be invoked and requirement that student be notified that federal law may require parents to have access to education records. Requires notification be provided within a reasonable period of time or promptly, for acts that caused physical harm.

BACKGROUND:

Current law requires school districts to adopt policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, bullying, and cyberbullying. House Bill 2631 A adds a requirement that a school district notify parents or guardians if a student is bullied or harassed under certain circumstances.