



# TEXAS LEGISLATIVE STUDY GROUP

*An Official Caucus of the Texas House of Representatives*

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair, Rep. Garnet Coleman  
 Co-Vice Chair, Rep. Yvonne Davis  
 Co-Vice Chair, Rep. Ana Hernandez  
 Treasurer, Rep. Armando Walle  
 Secretary, Rep. Victoria Neave  
 General Counsel, Rep. Lina Ortega

Rep. Diego Bernal  
 Rep. Abel Herrero  
 Rep. Mando Martinez  
 Rep. Eddie Rodriguez  
 Rep. Toni Rose  
 Rep. Harold Dutton  
 Rep. Chris Turner  
 Rep. Rafael Anchía  
 Rep. Vikki Goodwin  
 Rep. Mary González  
 Rep. Gina Hinojosa  
 Rep. Rhetta Bowers  
 Rep. John Turner  
 Rep. Ina Minjarez  
 Rep. Sergio Muñoz  
 Rep. Alex Dominguez  
 Rep. Nicole Collier  
 Rep. Vikki Goodwin  
 Rep. Julie Johnson

## Representative Desk

LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE SENATE CALENDAR- Thursday, September 2, 2021				
Author	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
SB 3  Sponsor: Huberty   Toth   Metcalf   White  By: Hughes	Relating to civics training programs for certain public school social studies teachers and principals, parental access to certain learning management systems, and certain curriculum in public schools, including certain instructional requirements and prohibitions.	Public Education  Vote: 7 Ayes 5 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	<p>SB3 places new requirements and restrictions on instruction for all courses and all grade levels. It removes all House amendments to HB3979 from the regular session, including provisions requiring instruction on the histories and contributions of Black, Indigenous, Latinx people, and women, many of which are not in the TEKS. However, it still requires that the Texas State Board of Education include a number of topics in the civics essential knowledge and skills required to be taught in Texas K-12 schools. The required topics include fundamentals of American government, civic engagement, government institutions, information literacy, and civil discourse.</p> <p>The bill requires the TEA commissioner to develop programs to train teachers and administrators on the new requirements and restrictions. The training includes information on teaching civics, guiding classroom discussions, conducting classroom simulations, teaching media literacy, and incorporating civics into subject areas other than social studies. Each developed civics training program must be reviewed and approved by the State Board of Education with recurring annual reviews after initial approval. All Texas school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools must ensure that at least one teacher and one principal have attended this training. HB5, the supplemental appropriations bill contains \$14.6 million from GR for the civics training program.</p> <p>SB3 restricts teachers and schools in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibits a teacher from being compelled to discuss a particular current event or controversial issue</li> <li>Requires teachers who discuss current events to provide diverse perspectives without giving deference to one perspective</li> <li>With the exception of service projects, prohibits a school district, open-enrollment charter school, or teacher from requiring or awarding credit for a student's political activism, civic engagement, advocacy, or their work/association with any lobbying or advocacy organization</li> </ul>	<p><b>Unfavorable</b>            Evaluated By:            Brittany Sharp  <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a>            (210) 748-0646</p>

OK for Distribution - Rep Garnet Coleman

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibits teachers, administrators, and others from requiring an understanding of the 1619 project</li> </ul> <p>SB3 also prohibits a teacher or any employee of a state agency, school district, or open-enrollment charter school from including in a course certain concepts including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One race or sex is inherently superior, racist, sexist, oppressive, or worthy of discrimination</li> <li>An individual should feel discomfort or psychological distress due to their race or sex</li> <li>Slavery in the U. S. constituted the true founding of the country</li> <li>Slavery and racism are antithetical to the authentic founding principles of the country which include liberty and equality</li> </ul> <p>New in this version of SB3 is the requirement that any school district or open-enrollment charter school that uses a learning management system or online learning portal must provide login credentials to each student’s parent.</p> <p>Despite having passed HB3979 in the regular session, Governor Abbott has demanded that the Legislature pursue further legislation on critical race theory (CRT). CRT originated in law schools when civil rights academics posed that racism was more than just individual prejudice, but rather could be baked into institutions and systems through the law. The Republican narrative twists these ideas to make it seem as though CRT intends to make white school children feel shame and guilt even though it is not taught in K-12 schools. SB3 does not even include the term, but rather offers vague restrictions which prevent educators from teaching history accurately and setting them up for unnecessary legal battles.</p>	
<p>SB 9</p> <p>Sponsor: Dutton   Anchia</p> <p>By: Huffman   West</p>	<p>Relating to requiring public schools to provide instruction and materials and adopt policies relating to the prevention of child abuse, family violence, and dating violence.</p>	<p>Public Education</p> <p>Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>SB9 requires the local school health advisory council to recommend appropriate grade levels and curriculum for instruction on preventing child abuse, family violence, and dating violence. The bill also requires school districts to make all curriculum materials for such instruction to be made accessible to parents of students enrolled in the district. All course materials and content are to be selected by the school board with the advice of the local school health advisory council.</p> <p>SB9 also requires school boards to create a policy for adopting curriculum materials required in the bill. The policy should include a requirement for the local school health advisory council to hold at least two public meetings on the materials before adopting recommendations. The school board must ensure that selected curriculum materials are grade-level appropriate and reviewed by the appropriate academic experts.</p> <p>The school district is required to provide written notice to the parents of all students in the district stating whether the district has chosen to provide child abuse, family violence, and</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated By: Brittany Sharp <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a> (210) 748-0646</p>



			<p>dating violence prevention instruction to students. If the instruction will be provided, the written notice must include a description of instruction content, as well as a statement of the parent's rights to review curriculum materials and to remove the child from any or all parts of the instruction. The notice must also include information on opportunities for parental involvement in curriculum development.</p> <p>Written consent is required before any student can receive instruction on preventing child abuse, family violence, and dating violence, and the request for written consent must be provided to the parent at least two weeks before instruction begins.</p> <p>Currently, all school districts are required to have a dating violence policy. SB9 requires the policy to include a clear statement that dating violence is not tolerated at school alongside information reporting procedures and guidelines for students who are victims of dating violence. The school district is also required to have available age-appropriate educational materials on dating violence and resources for students seeking help.</p> <p>It is crucial that middle and high school-aged students are taught about dating violence. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that nearly one in 11 female high school students and one in 15 male high school students have experienced physical dating violence in the last year, and approximately one in nine female high school students and one in 36 male high school students experienced sexual dating violence in the last year. LGBTQ+ teens and teens of color are at greater risk of dating violence as well as other types of violence.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--

**LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE HOUSE CALENDAR- Thursday, September 2, 2021**

<p>HB 233 By: Huberty</p>	<p>Relating to providing accelerated instruction for public school students who fail to achieve satisfactory performance on certain assessment instruments.</p>	<p>Public Education Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent 2 PNV</p>	<p>HB233 aims to improve HB4545 from the regular session. HB4545 provided accelerated instruction for students who fail to achieve satisfactory performance on the STAAR. HB233 is an improvement as it reduces the strain on district resources by raising the ratios and narrowing the group of students required to receive tutoring.</p> <p>The bill specifies that a student is eligible for accelerated instruction if they did not perform satisfactorily on a math or reading STAAR test. This improves the current statute by including all subject area STAAR tests. If the student does not perform satisfactorily on two consecutive attempts (an improvement upon the one failed attempt in current statute) on the same assessment the superintendent will meet with the students accelerated learning committee to identify why the student did not perform satisfactorily, whether changes are needed in the educational plan, and if additional resources are needed for the student. The bill also raises the student to tutor ratio for group tutoring to 4 instead of 3 in response to staffing challenges.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated By: Brittany Sharp <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a> (210)748-0646</p>
-------------------------------	---	---	---	---



			<p>Additionally, the school board can adopt a resolution that would raise student to tutor ratio up to 10:1 without authorization of the caretakers of the students in the group.</p> <p>The bill allows for a school district to qualify for a waiver from the TEA commissioner for requirements if 60% of the students who received accelerated instruction performed satisfactorily on the same test they had previously failed in the previous year.</p>	
<p>HB 200</p> <p>By: Landgraf</p>	<p>Relating to the prohibition on the transportation, storage, and disposal of high-level radioactive waste in certain areas.</p>	<p>Environmental Regulation</p> <p>Vote: 6 Ayes 2 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering granting a license as soon as September 13th to Interim Storage Partners (ISP) to dump high-level radioactive waste in Andrews County. If this license is granted, high-level radioactive waste from across the country could be brought to Texas.</p> <p>HB200 bans the importation, disposing, or storage of high-level radioactive waste in critical energy infrastructure zones. The bill gives Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) the ability to develop and consider establishing critical energy infrastructure zones in counties with more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 megawatts of installed solar energy generation capacity</li> <li>• 100 megawatts of installed wind generation capacity</li> <li>• 10 million barrels of oil produced annually or</li> <li>• 2 million MCF of natural gas produced annually</li> </ul> <p>Although currently there is no ban, there are concerns that this bill does not go far enough as it allows for the disposal of high-level nuclear waste disposal or storage in about half of the state. HB200 may not prevent the storage or disposal of reactor related Greater than Class C Waste, which is extremely radioactive material. Additionally, it does not include existing nuclear power plants in the critical energy infrastructure zones.</p>	<p><b>Will of the House</b></p> <p>Evaluated By: Brittany Sharp <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a> (210) 748-0646</p>

