

SUBJECT: Juvenile Probation Commission training in violence and conflict resolution

COMMITTEE: Juvenile Justice and Family Issues — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Goodman, Cook, Brady, H. Cuellar, Naishtat, Puente, Van de Putte
0 nays
2 absent — De La Garza, Williamson

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, February 9 — voice vote

WITNESSES: None

DIGEST: SB 242 would require the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to provide training programs in violence prevention and conflict resolution to juvenile probation departments and juvenile boards at their request. These programs would have to include discussions on domestic violence and child abuse issues.

The commission would be required to encourage the inclusion of a violence prevention and conflict resolution program as a condition of probation.

The bill would take effect on January 1, 1996.

SUPPORTERS SAY: SB 242 would establish in law the violence prevention and conflict resolution training already done by the Juvenile Probation Commission. Anti-violence and peer mediation programs have proved successful in helping juveniles deal with problems with anger and violence. These programs teach children nonviolent methods of conflict resolution. SB 242 would ensure that those juvenile probation departments and juvenile boards that want training get it in order to then teach children nonviolent methods for resolving conflict.

OPPONENTS SAY: No apparent opposition.