BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1154 By: Harris Education 3-31-97 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires school districts to adopt a student code of conduct, but does not allocate the authority to any specific individual within the district. Recently, a court case challenging this area of the Education Code questioned whether or not the elected school board could delegate this authority to a superintendent or principal. S.B. 1154 requires the student code of conduct for a public school district to be adopted by the elected board of trustees, and any changes to that code to be approved by the board.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1154 outlines provisions regarding adopting and amending a student code of conduct in public schools.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 37.001, Education Code, to require the board of trustees of an independent school district, rather than each school district, with the advice of its district-level committee and with the juvenile board of each county in which the district is located, to adopt a student code of conduct for the district. Requires any change or amendment to be approved by the board of trustees once the student code of conduct is promulgated. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.