

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R2979 ACP-F

S.B. 503
By: Eltife
Education
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, Section 552.126, Government Code, requires school districts to disclose the name or names of finalists for the position of superintendent at least 21 days prior to the school board's final vote. However, the law does not define who is considered a finalist for purposes of disclosure, and frequently a school district announces its intention to hire a "lone finalist," rather than announcing the list of finalists being considered. Consequently, the process by which a superintendent is selected frequently lacks transparency and limits community input.

As proposed, S.B. 503 provides that a person is a "finalist" if the board of trustees interviewed the person in the final round of interviews.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 552.126, Government Code, as follows:

Sec. 552.126. EXCEPTION: NAME OF APPLICANT FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT. (a) Creates this subsection from existing text.

(b) Provides that for purposes of this section, a person is a finalist for the position of superintendent of a public school district if the board of trustees interviewed the person during the final round of interviews for the position.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective to October 1, 2009.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2009.