

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1138
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Bill Analysis

SB 1138 modifies the School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act. It requires a school district board of education to update its discipline and bullying policy annually. It directs policies to include a procedure for a student, school employee, school volunteer or parent or legal guardian to report an act of bullying and directs anonymous reports to be investigated in the same manner as other reports. The measure provides immunity from a cause of action for school employees, school volunteers, students or parents or legal guardians who report incidents of bullying in good faith. The bill requires policies to include a procedure for notifying parents and legal guardians of a victim and reported perpetrator of bullying within 24 hours of a reported incident, and it requires immediate notification if a student expresses suicidal thoughts or encourages another student to commit suicide. School policies must contain a statement prohibiting retaliation against a school employee for notifying a district board of education or the State Department of Education about noncompliance. The measure requires a district board of education to hold at least one public hearing prior to adopting a discipline and bullying policy or any modifications. It requires a copy of the policy to be submitted to the State Department of Education and also requires a district superintendent to provide to the district board of education a report on bullying prevention activities and incidents of bullying at least once each semester. It requires a board of education to provide the district's discipline and bullying policy to every employee.

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