

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1563
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Bill Analysis

SB 1563 modifies the Parents' Bill of Rights. The measure clarifies that a school district or school district board of education cannot infringe on parental rights and clarifies the right to access and review medical records, regardless of whether they are held by the state, any political subdivision, or any other governmental or nongovernmental entity. The measure provides the right to consent before the state or a political subdivision makes a photograph of a minor child. The bill directs the State Board of Education to develop training materials to provide in-service training to all school district personnel about the legislative intent of the Parents' Bill of Rights and their responsibility to protect parents' rights. It requires school district boards of education to use the materials to train personnel at the beginning of every school year.

The measure requires written parental consent to opt in to sex education instruction and requires boards of education to develop procedures by which parents will be notified in advance of any instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity. It requires written parental consent for a child to participate in any clubs or activities. The measure adds the right of the public to review library books and books used in the classroom or any other school room. The bill directs school district boards of education to adopt a policy to make available for public inspection printed copies of certain information including the board of education's policy manual and any parent or student handbook. It requires school district boards of education to adopt procedures for a parent to submit concerns regarding procedures and practices adopted to implement the Parents' Bill of Rights. It provides procedures for instances when a school district has not resolved a parent's concerns. The bill prohibits a school district employee without proper professional licensure from performing an assessment of the physical, mental, or psychological needs of a minor without written parental consent. It requires school district boards of education to adopt procedures to notify a parent of changes to any services provided to a child and changes to the name or pronoun used for a child. The bill also modifies language regarding sex education to require written parental consent for a student to participate.

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