

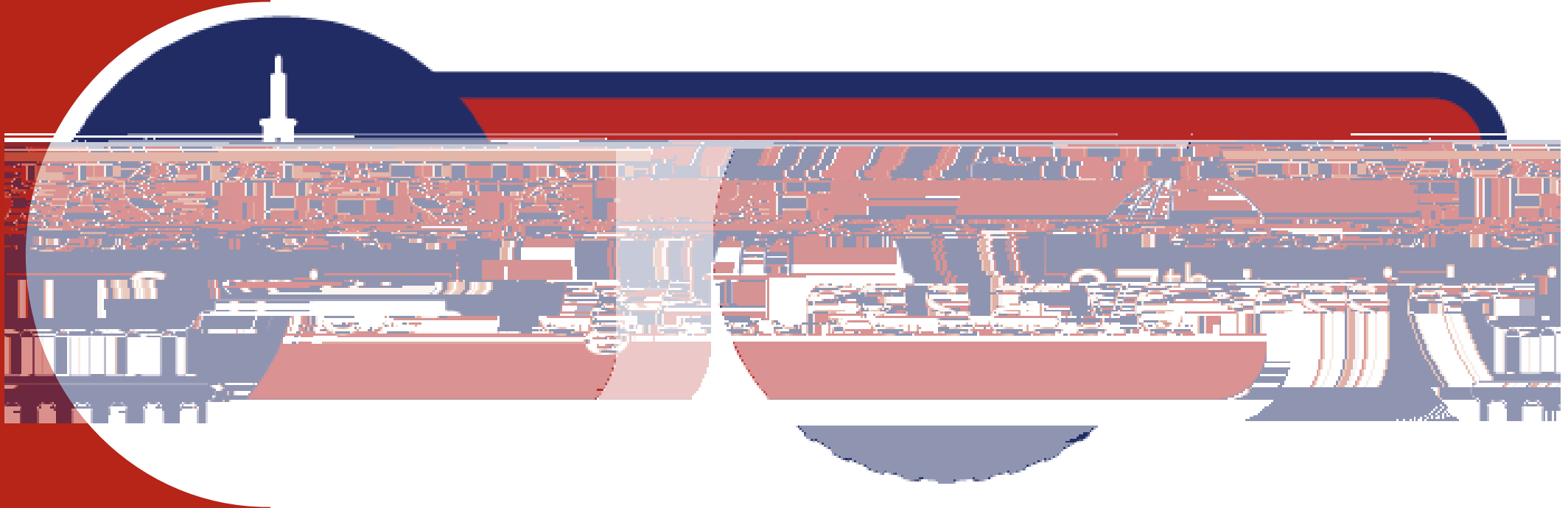


Special Education Legislation

May 2022



11 Special Education Bills from





House Bill 159



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Relating to improving training and staff development for primary and secondary educators to enable them to more effectively serve all students.

- Adds and amends educator preparation requirements related to the instruction of all students, with an emphasis on students with disabilities and prescribes



House Bill 2256



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Relating to creating a bilingual special education certification to teach students of limited English proficiency with disabilities.



Relating to public school finance system and public education.

- Created the Texas Commission on Special Education Funding
- Allocated \$100 Million to be granted to LEAs to support innovative programs to serve students with Autism and to support training efforts in the area of dyslexia.



Relating to behavior improvement plans and behavioral intervention plans for certain public-school students and notification and documentation requirements regarding certain behavior management techniques.

- Expands requirements for rules adopted by the Commissioner of Education regarding use of confinement, restraint, seclusion, and timeout, including written notification, a student's special education eligibility school records, and documentation requirements within a behavior improvement plan or a behavioral intervention plan.
- Requires actions that must be taken if a student with a disability that receives special education services receives a disciplinary action that constitutes a change in placement. (This bill is applicable beginning with the 2021-2022 school year)
- Requires the individualized education programs (IEP) team to review the behavior improvement plan or behavioral intervention plan in students' IEP at least once per year and specifies conditions that would require the behavior improvement plan or behavior intervention plan to be modified or changed.
- [FAQ is published](#) on TEA website





House Bill 1252



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Relating to the limngTEM (2]92]J





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House Bill 2210



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Senate Bill 781



- Addresses regulations for residential treatment centers and applications regarding such centers. The bill requires that the Health and Human Services Commission collaborate with TEA to determine best practices for educational services in a general residential operation.



Senate Bill 2075



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Appendix



Relating to the prosecution of the offense of continuous sexual abuse of young child or disabled individual; creating a criminal offense.

- Due to the changes in this legislation, there will be minor updates to the Texas Student Data System (TSDS). For local education agencies, there is no change to what is reported or the manner in which data is reported to the TEA, but there is a change to existing terminology in the data standards due to HB 375. Schools may also wish to update their student code of conduct as well as any of their local documentation or forms to reference the new terminology.



House Bill 165



- Permits a student who is enrolled in a special education program to qualify for and earn an endorsement under the Foundation High School Program if the student meets existing requirements for an endorsement either with or without modification of the curriculum





Senate Bill 522



- Replace the term “functionally blind” with “visual impairment.”
- Also requires students with visual impairments to be provided with braille instruction unless their Individualized Educational Program (IEP) team determines it is not appropriate.





Senate Bill 1017



- The bill amends Texas Education Code (TEC) § 60.0663(b) by requiring the Higher Education Coordinating Board (the board) to annually update its inventory of postsecondary educational programs and services provided by institutions of higher education for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.