

SUBJECT: Training of food service workers

COMMITTEE: Public Health — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 8 ayes — Berlanga, Hirschi, Coleman, Delisi, Glaze, Janek, Maxey, McDonald
0 nays
1 absent — Rodriguez

WITNESSES: For — Chuck Courtney, Texas Retailers Association
Against — None

BACKGROUND: Health and Safety Code sec. 438.043 governs the accreditation of food service programs. The Texas Department of Health establishes a specific curriculum for each education or training program, such as food handling, safety and inspection. The department also maintains a registry of approved training and education courses.

Large, multistate corporations generally have in-house training programs for employees, which may not conform to Texas specifications.

DIGEST: CSHB 2382 would allow the health department to modify training course requirements for a course used in training employees under the common control of a single entity.

The bill would specify that a food service worker trained in a course for a single entity would be considered to have met a local health jurisdiction's training and testing requirements only as to food service performed for that entity.

CSHB 2382 would take effect immediately if approved by two-thirds of the membership of each house.

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NOTES: The committee substitute made nonsubstantive changes. SB 1081, the companion by Armbrister was referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee on March 14.