

- SUBJECT:** Establishing a timeline for school boards to resolve complaints
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 12 ayes — Dutton, Lozano, Allen, Allison, K. Bell, Bernal, Buckley, Huberty, K. King, Meza, Talarico, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — M. González
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Andrea Chevalier, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Dennis Borel, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Steven Aleman, Disability Rights Texas; Dena Donaldson, Texas AFT; Pamela McPeters, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; Ashley Ford, The Arc of Texas; Thomas Parkinson)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Eric Marin, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Some have suggested that current law does not codify a timeline for school trustees to resolve a complaint from a district employee, student or parent, or a member of the public and that school boards should be required to include a reasonable timeline in their process for addressing grievances or complaints.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 2120 would require school district boards of trustees to adopt a process for handling complaints by district personnel, students or the parents or guardians of students, and members of the public that must, unless otherwise provided by law, include:
- an initial administrative hearing and an opportunity to appeal the administration decision following the initial hearing; and
 - unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, provide for a resolution

of the complaint not later than 120 calendar days after the date the complaint was filed.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2021, and the board of trustees of a school district would have to adopt a hearing process in accordance with the bill's requirements as soon as practicable after that date.