

SUBJECT: Allowing certain after-school programs to provide school safety training

COMMITTEE: Youth Health & Safety, Select — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 9 ayes — S. Thompson, Hull, Allison, Capriglione, Dutton, A. Johnson, T. King, Landgraf, Lozano

0 nays

WITNESSES: For — Mitzi Faniola, Boys & Girls Clubs; Mandi Kimball, Children at Risk; Cody Summerville, Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (*Registered, but did not testify*: Mark Wiggins, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Omodele Ojomo, Autism Society of Texas; Jolene Sanders-Foster, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Garry Jones, DFER; John Aquino, Human Rights Campaign Austin; Christine Yanas, Methodist Healthcare Ministries; Grover Campbell, TASB; Maddox Hilgers, Texans Care for Children; Colby Nichols, Texas Association of Community Schools; Amy Beneski, Texas Association of School Administrators; Jenny Andrews, Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops; Lauren Rose, Texas Network of Youth Services; Laura Colangelo, Texas Private Schools Association; Amanda Garcia, Texas Students for DEI; Kerrie Judice, TexProtects; Cynthia Van Maanen, Travis County Democratic Party; Tiffany Patterson, United Ways of Texas; and 30 individuals)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Carly Blaine; Christine Gwillim)

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Eric Marin, TEA; John Scott, Texas Education Agency; Lindsey Sikes)

BACKGROUND: Concerns have been raised that after-school care programs may not have access to school safety training available to schools.

DIGEST: CSHB 1905 would define "accredited private school" as a private school accredited by an organization recognized by the Texas Private School

Accreditation Commission or the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

"Organization providing out-of-school-time care" would include faith-based organizations, before-school or after-school programs, summer camps, Texas 4-H or other agricultural programs, and youth sports organizations.

Using money available for the purpose, CSHB 1905 would allow a school district to provide school safety training courses, including certain active shooter training courses, available at no cost to employees of accredited private schools located in the district, child-care facilities, or other organizations providing out-of-school-time care to children younger than 18 years old who resided in the district.

TEA would be allowed to solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source to pay for these school safety training courses.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.