BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

DIGEST

Currently, an employee of a school district is limited to certain instances in which he or she is allowed to make a videotape or voice recording of a child without parental consent. Some parents have expressed the concern that they may be affected by this law and that certain videotape or voice recording activities in a classroom should be allowed. This bill provides that parental consent is not required for videotaping or recording, if the purpose is related to the evaluation of an educator, media coverage of the school, or another purpose approved by the board of trustees of the school district.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 521 provides that parental consent is not required for videotaping or recording, if the purpose is related to the evaluation of an educator, media coverage of the school, or another purpose approved by the board of trustees of the school district.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 26.009(b), Education Code, to set forth purposes not requiring parental consent for using a child in a videotape or recording of a child's voice, if the purpose is related to the evaluation of an educator, used for media coverage, or is another purpose approved by the board of trustees.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies beginning with the 1997-1998 school year.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause. Effective date: upon passage.