

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 523
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Education
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, a student must be represented by his or her parent or guardian at an expulsion hearing for the student. However, it is unclear if a school district is allowed to hold an expulsion hearing if a student or his or her parent or guardian do not show for the hearing. This bill allows a student to be entitled to representation from a parent or guardian, but provides that a hearing may be held with or without a student's or the parent's or guardian's representation, if the school district makes a good-faith effort to inform the student and the parent or guardian of the hearing.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 523 allows an expelled student to be entitled to representation from a parent or guardian, but provides that an expulsion hearing may be held with or without a student's or the parent's or guardian's representation, if the school district makes a good-faith effort to inform the student and the parent or guardian of the hearing.

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 37.009(f), Education Code, to provide that a student is entitled to be represented, rather than must be represented, by a parent or guardian who can provide guidance to the student at a hearing for the student. Authorizes a school district to hold a student's hearing with or without a student and the student's parent or guardian, if the district makes a good-faith effort to inform the student and the student's parent or guardian of the hearing.

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

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