Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 4387
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Bill Analysis

HB 4387 requires each school district board of education to adopt procedures providing for notification of a student's parent or legal guardian if there is a change in the student's services related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the student. School district boards of education are prohibited from adopting procedures that prohibit school district personnel from notifying a parent or legal guardian about his or her student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in related services or that encourage or have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold such information from a parent or legal guardian nor shall school personnel discourage or prohibit notification of a parent or legal guardian of and involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being. The measure authorizes a school district to adopt procedures that permit school district personnel to withhold such information from a parent or legal guardian if a reasonably prudent person would believe that disclosure would result in abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

The measure prohibits any classroom instruction relating to gender identity or sexual orientation from occurring in grades kindergarten through five. Such instruction shall be provided in a manner that is age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in grades six through twelve. The measure also provides a school district must, prior to the administration of a wellbeing questionnaire or health screening, provide the questionnaire or health screening form to the parents or legal guardians of the students and shall obtain written consent from the parents or legal guardians prior to administration of the questionnaire or survey. Additionally, school districts must adopt a policy for parents to notify the district superintendent or his or her designee regarding concerns to the classroom instruction and for the resolution of such concerns within 7 days after receipt of notification. The measure also provides that if the concern is not resolved within 30 days, the district must provide parents with its reasoning for not resolving the concern. The parents may request the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint an administrative law judge to ascertain the facts of the case and resolve the complaint or bring an action against the school district to obtain a declaratory judgment that the school district procedures violate the provisions of this measure.

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