

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 1579</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	<b>3123</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 1579 allows a school district board of education to approve a request from a school district employee for a leave of absence to hold office as an officer, director, trustee, or agent of a national, statewide, or school district employee association. It requires the requesting employee to provide the school district superintendent of proof of election and the term of office. The bill states that a leave of absence will be without pay, and the employee on leave will not be entitled to maintain any benefits granted by the district; will not advance on the minimum salary schedule or accrue sick leave, personal business leave, or personal leave while on a leave of absence; or accumulate service credit with the Teachers' Retirement System. It allows an employee to return to his or her former position or a comparable position after the leave of absence. The measure also states that the leave will only be granted if the employee agrees in writing to return to the school district immediately following the leave of absence for a period of time at least equal to the leave of absence granted. It also requires the employee or the association to which he or she was elected to reimburse the district for any additional expenses incurred in staffing while the employee was on leave. It prohibits an employee on leave from accessing school district office space, equipment, or supplies. The measure also states that if an association that serves as a school district employee organization fails to comply with these provisions, the board of education will no longer recognize it as a representative of employees.

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