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Senate Education Committee

March 6, 2007

Suggested changes to SB 9:

- Reinststate the word “directly” in the language borrowed from 19 Texas Administrative Code §249.16, to focus on misconduct that is relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession.
 - TAC §249.17 Decision Making Guidelines should be codified in the education code along with TAC §249.16, which is already included in the bill. These guidelines serve an important purpose of providing a framework to promote consistency in the exercise of sound discretion by the staff, the presiding Administrative Law Judge, and the board in seeking, proposing, and making decisions on these matters. The SBEC rule also provides guidance for the informal resolution of potentially contested matters. Codifying these guidelines will help focus agency resources for a more efficient process that focuses on protecting children from real harm.
 - To avoid any confusion, require all agency forms requesting criminal history information to clearly state that after the effective date of the bill a deferred adjudication received for certain offenses will be given the same weight as a conviction in background checks.
 - Include language in Section 6 that sets forth a standard of “knowingly and intentionally” for the sanctions for failure to disclose criminal record information.
 - Strike Section 7, with its redundant reporting requirements, in its entirety.
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