FRISCO ISD • PURCHASING & VENDOR COMPLIANCE

Senate Bill 571 & New Chapter 22A of the Texas Education Code

Plain-Language Summary — 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2025) • Effective for the 2025–26 school year

What it is. SB 571 added a brand-new Chapter 22A, "Employee and Service Provider Misconduct," to the Texas Education Code. It pulls together and tightens the rules for keeping unsafe adults away from students, and it makes misconduct get reported quickly and tracked statewide. Governor Abbott signed it on June 21, 2025.

Who it now covers

- **Beyond employees.** The rules reach regular staff and — importantly — service providers and contractors, plus entities tied to the state's education savings account (ESA) program.
- **All educational entities.** Districts, charters, regional service centers, and shared services arrangements are all included.

Faster, clearer reporting

- **48-hour chain.** A principal must report covered misconduct to the superintendent within 48 hours; the superintendent must then report to TEA or SBEC within 48 hours.
- **24-hour child-abuse rule.** Suspected child abuse or neglect must be reported to DFPS or law enforcement within 24 hours.
- **Central portal.** Required reports are filed through TEA's Misconduct Reporting Portal, creating a trackable record and helping flag repeat offenders across districts.

Front-end screening

- **"Do Not Hire" registry.** Schools and their providers must check the statewide registry; listed individuals cannot be hired or allowed to serve. It is broader than a criminal-history check — it also captures revoked certifications and certain open investigations.
- **Pre-employment affidavit.** All applicants for employment or to serve as a service provider must complete the TEA-approved affidavit disclosing relevant history (§22A.055).

Accountability

- **Parent notice.** Boards must adopt policies to notify parents/guardians when an employee or service provider is alleged to have engaged in specified misconduct involving a student.
- **Real penalties.** Non-compliance can bring fines, felony charges, and certificate revocation. Companion bill HB 4623 (eff. 9/1/2025) adds civil liability for districts and administrators who fail to act.

Reference: SB 571, 89th Texas Legislature, R.S. (2025), adding Tex. Educ. Code ch. 22A. This summary is for general information; for specific situations consult district legal counsel. Free TEA training and the official affidavit form are available from the Texas Education Agency.