

Report Police Interactions at Public Schools

The Problem

Historically students of color have been disciplined by school officials at higher rates than white students—disturbingly, even for the same student code of conduct violations. These racial disparities likely extend to interactions with police on school campuses, but the data is not systematically collected by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The lack of data handicaps the ability to truly measure this trend and craft solutions to ensure all students feel safe and secure in their school.

The Solution

All public schools—ISD and charter—should be required to file reports to TEA on all law enforcement interactions with students. This increased transparency will enable school systems and the community to build a school culture that is safe and welcoming for all students.

HB 1194 will:

Require all public schools to report police interactions with students to TEA. Notations will include the type of police interaction, the race or ethnicity of the students involved, and if the student has special needs or is part of another special population of students.