



89TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HOUSE BILL 6: SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

KEY PROVISIONS OF HB 6:

- HB 6 protects students and teachers by providing flexibility and options for discipline to school administrators.
- Clarifies that in-school suspension may exceed three days and prohibits an in-school suspension from exceeding 10 days
- Allows students in a grade level below grade three to be placed in out-of-school suspension if the student threatens the immediate health and safety of the students in the classroom or causes repeated or significant disruption to the classroom
- Allows students to be placed in a DAEP for conduct that occurs off campus, including deadly conduct, disorderly conduct, or weapon offenses.
- Establishes a framework for districts to create a virtual district alternative education program for remote learning for students who have committed a serious offense.

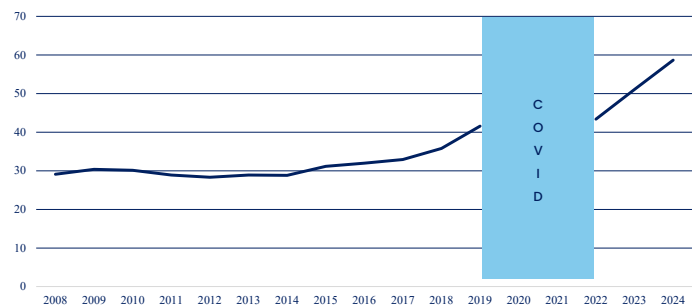
INTRODUCTION

School disorder has been steadily rising for the past several years, making school an unsafe place for students and staff. HB 6 provides several tools to schools ensure that administrators never have to say “there’s nothing we can do.”

INCREASING OFFENSES

Beginning in the 2018–19 school year, and continuing after the COVID-19 interruption, Texas public schools saw a rising wave of school disorder. Some of the most concerning categories of offenses, including fights and assaults on district employees, have sharply increased.

Assaults on District Employees Per 100,000 Students

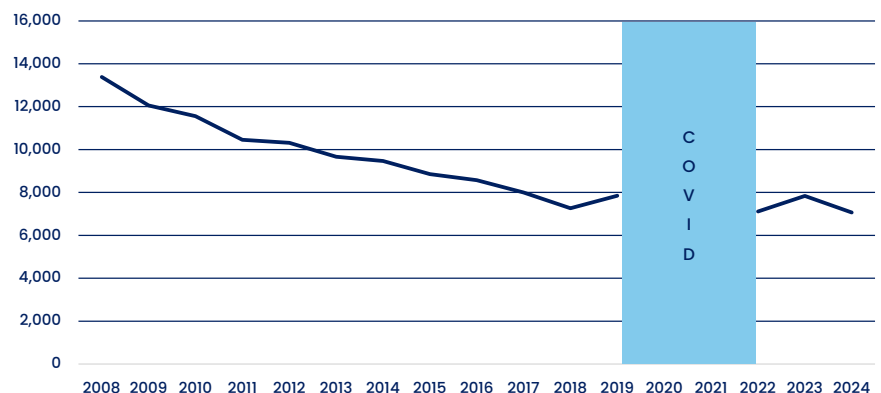


Texas Education Agency (n.d.). Reason Incident Counts for School Year 2014–2015: 2023–2024. https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/adhocrpt/Disciplinary_Data_Products/statewidediscipline.html

DECLINING INTERVENTIONS

Even as breaches of school safety grow, schools have taken a soft stance on discipline. The rate at which out of school suspensions are used has fallen by 47% from 2008 to to 2024. School administrators seem unable or unwilling to remove students from classrooms in order to maintain school order.

Count of School Suspensions Per 100,000 Students



Texas Education Agency (n.d.). Counts of Students and Discipline Actions By Discipline Action Groups for School Years 2007–2008: 2023–2024. https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/adhocrpt/Disciplinary_Data_Products/DAG_Summaries/Download_State_DAG_Summaries.html