

Equal Access Act for Professional Employee Organizations; HB 2221

HB 2221 establishes the Equal Access Act for professional employees' organizations and modifies the Professional Negotiations Act.

The bill requires all local boards of education to:

- Give equal access for all professional employees' associations to the employees' physical or electronic mailboxes; and
- Allow equal access for all professional employees' associations to attend new teacher or employee school orientations and other meetings.

Local boards of education are not allowed to designate any day or breaks in a school year by naming or referring to the name of any professional employees' association.

The bill amends the Professional Negotiations Act by making the Equal Access Act supplemental to and part of that law. Changes in the Professional Negotiations Act include expanding the definition of "professional employees' organizations" to include those existing for the purpose of professional development or liability protection.

Finally, the bill deletes certain language from the Professional Negotiations Act in conflict with a provision created in the bill for the definition of "terms and conditions of professional service."