

HANDLE WITH CARE[®]

Behavior Management System

New Texas School Restraint Law does not impact HWC Training

In our reading of SB712/TEC 37.0023, the new Law does not prohibit any of the physical intervention methods or restraining holds taught by HWC (or our competitors).

The Law's primary focus is on aversive therapies and methods and floor restraining "devices", but it does cover some painful or dangerous physical control methods, as well. It prohibits any method creating pain with pressure points, restricts breathing, applies pressure to the neck or torso or limits the student's ability to communicate, none of which applies to HWC.

Re: Aversive techniques or methods:

The Bill specifically prohibits aversive conditioning techniques and methods, which are used to diminish the recurrence of targeted problematic behaviors; typically by using low levels of electrical stimulation or some other unpleasant sensory stimulation in association with the targeted behavior(s).

Re: "Devices":

The Law also prohibits the use of "devices, materials or objects" for immobilizing all 4 extremities in a prone or supine floor holding configuration.

Note: If you are a HWC client-school and you are using our Patented "PRT[®] Tripod Stands[™]", continue using them. While it may be a device, it is not a floor-restraining or immobilizing device. It is a safety device to eliminate chest compression during a PRT in its prone holding configuration by making it easier and more comfortable to perform.

Re: Physical restraining holds (that do not restrict breathing, apply pressure etc.):

The Law does not reference:

- physical ("hands-on") prone floor holding methods
- physical supine floor holding methods
- takedowns which may be necessary to get a student safely to the floor.

In summary, unless you are using aversive conditioning methods with your students or restraining holds that restrict breathing or have the other prohibited features, this law should have no impact on your classroom.

*This summary does not include every item contained in the Law. We encourage you to read it.

Tel: 845-255-4031
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Our website includes resources on the laws governing restraint use in schools.

Disclaimer: Nothing in this document is intended to create an attorney-client relationship. Nothing written or spoken constitutes legal advice and should not be used as a substitute for obtaining legal advice.

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