



SEXUAL ASSAULT CLIMATE SURVEYS

HB294 - REP. CARPENTER

THE GOAL



Amend current law to allow for increased response rates and broader utility of the anonymous sexual assault climate surveys administered by postsecondary campuses. Improved data will enhance our ability to better plan services, educate stakeholders, and inform prevention efforts.



THE CHALLENGE

Survey fatigue due to overexposure, especially to a sensitive topic like sexual assault, has resulted in statistically inadequate survey results over a three-year administration period. Current law requires that a specific survey model be utilized to annually survey students on all postsecondary campuses.



BEST PRACTICE

- The American Association of Universities Consortium conducts its Campus Climate Survey every 4 years based on Dept. of Justice recommendations and experiences a 31.8% response rate.
- Surveying too often leaves institutions without enough time to measure the effects of changes or enhancements in policies and programs.
- In surveys that ask about prevalence, answering questions can be a difficult emotional experience for students.