

1 HB593
2 159724-1
3 By Representatives Hall, Todd and Knight
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 11-MAR-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require K-12 schools to
9 incorporate into health education curricula
10 age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness
11 and prevention education and implement standards
12 for training staff on sexual abuse and assault
13 awareness and prevention.

14
15 A BILL
16 TO BE ENTITLED
17 AN ACT

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19 Relating to education; to amend Sections 16-28B-6
20 and 16-28B-8, Code of Alabama 1975, to require K-12 schools to
21 incorporate into health education curricula age-appropriate
22 sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education
23 and implement standards for training staff on sexual abuse and
24 assault awareness and prevention.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. Sections 16-28B-6 and 16-28B-8, Code of
27 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

1 "§16-28B-6.

2 "Each school shall do all of the following:

3 "(1) Develop and implement evidence-based practices
4 to promote a school environment that is free of harassment,
5 intimidation, violence, and threats of violence.

6 "(2) Develop and implement evidence-based practices
7 to prevent harassment, intimidation, violence, and threats of
8 violence based, as a minimum, on the criteria established by
9 this chapter and local board policy, and to intervene when
10 such incidents occur.

11 "(3) Incorporate into civility, citizenship, and
12 character education curricula awareness of and sensitivity to
13 the prohibitions of this chapter and local board policy
14 against harassment, intimidation, violence, and threats of
15 violence.

16 "(4) Incorporate into health education curricula
17 age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and
18 prevention education.

19 "~~(4)~~ (5) Report statistics to the local board of
20 actual violence, submitted reports of threats of violence, and
21 harassment. The local board shall provide the statistics of
22 the school system and each school in the school system to the
23 department for posting on the department website. The posted
24 statistics shall be available to the public and any state or
25 federal agency requiring the information. The identity of each
26 student involved shall be protected and may not be posted on
27 the department website.

1 "§16-28B-8.

2 "To the extent that the Legislature shall
3 appropriate funds, or to the extent that any local board may
4 provide funds from other sources, each school system shall
5 implement the following standards and policies for programs in
6 an effort to prevent student suicide:

7 "(1) Foster individual, family, and group counseling
8 services related to suicide prevention.

9 "(2) Make referral, crisis intervention, and other
10 related information available for students, parents, and
11 school personnel.

12 "(3) Foster training for school personnel who are
13 responsible for counseling and supervising students, including
14 training on sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention.

15 "(4) Increase student awareness of the relationship
16 between drug and alcohol use and suicide.

17 "(5) Educate students in recognizing signs of
18 suicidal tendencies and other facts and warning signs of
19 suicide.

20 "(6) Inform students of available community suicide
21 prevention services.

22 "(7) Promote cooperative efforts between school
23 personnel and community suicide prevention program personnel.

24 "(8) Foster school-based or community-based, or
25 both, alternative programs outside of the classroom.

26 "(9) Develop a strategy to assist survivors of
27 attempted suicide, students, and school personnel in coping

1 with the issues relating to attempted suicide, suicide, the
2 death of a student, and healing.

3 "(10) Engage in any other program or activity which
4 the local board determines is appropriate and prudent in the
5 efforts of the school system to prevent student suicide.

6 "(11) Provide training for school employees and
7 volunteers who have significant contact with students on the
8 local board policies to prevent harassment, intimidation,
9 violence, and threats of violence.

10 "(12) Develop a process for discussing with students
11 local board policies relating to the prevention of student
12 suicide and to the prevention of harassment, intimidation,
13 violence, and threats of violence."

14 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
15 first day of the third month following its passage and
16 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.