



SENATE NO. 2283

AN ACT RELATIVE TO BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

This bill prohibits bullying:

- At school and at all school facilities;
- At school-sponsored or school-related functions, whether on or off school grounds;
- On school buses and school bus stops;
- Through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, licensed or used by a school; and
- At non-school-related locations and through non-school technology or electronic devices, if the bullying affects the school environment.

Prevention of Bullying

- Each school must develop a bullying prevention and intervention plan.
- The principal is responsible for implementing the plan.
- Each plan must contain several provisions, including:
 - Procedures for responding and investigating reports of bullying
 - Strategies for protecting those who report bullying
 - Notice to the parents or guardians of students involved in bullying, including perpetrators and victims
 - Appropriate services for students who have bullied or who are bullies
- Age-appropriate instruction for students in each grade on bullying prevention must be incorporated in a school's curriculum to create more positive school climates and prevent as much bullying as possible.
- Professional development for teachers and all staff to help them prevent and stop bullying is required.
- Schools must offer education to parents about bullying prevention.

Definition

- "Bullying" is defined as the severe or repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal, or electronic expression, or a physical act, or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at another student.

Reporting Bullying

- School staff must promptly report any bullying incident they witness or are made aware of. The school principal or designee must launch an immediate investigation and take appropriate disciplinary action.

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

- The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will publish a model plan that schools may consider when creating their anti-bullying policy.

For more information on how you can support anti-bullying legislation, visit

<http://www.adl.org/bullyingbill>