

AN ACT concerning education.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section 27-23.7 as follows:

(105 ILCS 5/27-23.7)

Sec. 27-23.7. Bullying prevention education.

(a) The General Assembly finds that bullying has a negative effect on the social environment of schools, creates a climate of fear among students, inhibits their ability to learn, and leads to other antisocial behavior. Bullying behavior has been linked to other forms of antisocial behavior, such as vandalism, shoplifting, skipping and dropping out of school, fighting, using drugs and alcohol, sexual harassment, and sexual violence.

(b) In this Section, "bullying prevention" means and includes instruction in all of the following:

- (1) Intimidation.
- (2) Student victimization.
- (3) Sexual harassment.
- (4) Sexual violence.
- (5) Strategies for student-centered problem solving regarding bullying.

(c) Each school district may make suitable provisions for instruction in bullying prevention in all grades and include such instruction in the courses of study regularly taught therein. A school board may collaborate with a community-based agency providing specialized curricula in bullying prevention whose ultimate outcome is to prevent sexual violence. The State Board of Education may assist in the development of instructional materials and teacher training in relation to bullying prevention.

(d) Beginning 180 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly, each school district shall create and maintain a policy on bullying, which policy must be filed with the State Board of Education. Each school district must communicate its policy on bullying to its students and their parent or guardian on an annual basis. The policy must be updated every 2 years and filed with the State Board of Education after being updated. The State Board of Education shall monitor the implementation of policies created under this subsection (d).

(Source: P.A. 94-937, eff. 6-26-06.)

Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding Section 8.31 as follows:

(30 ILCS 805/8.31 new)

Sec. 8.31. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8

Public Act 095-0349

HB0018 Enrolled

LRB095 03463 NHT 23634 b

of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.