

HB 518 -- Bullying in Schools

Sponsor: Lampe

This bill changes the laws regarding bullying in schools. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Revises the definition of "bullying" to include discrimination; substantial interference with a student's educational performance, opportunity, or benefits; and disruptive behavior;
- (2) Prohibits bullying by school employees or students on school property, at school functions, or on school buses;
- (3) Changes the requirement that a bullying policy not enumerate protected classes of individuals to a specified list of protected classes;
- (4) Adds several mandatory school district policies, including procedures for reporting and investigating bullying incidents; and
- (5) Requires the State Board of Education to develop model policies to assist local districts in developing their policies for the prevention of bullying no later than September 1, 2010.