

House \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 256,  
2 Page 1, Section A, Line 3, by inserting after all of said section and line the following:

3  
4 "160.775. 1. Every district shall adopt an antibullying policy by September 1, 2007.

5 2. "Bullying" means intimidation or harassment that causes a reasonable student to fear for  
6 his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance,  
7 opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly  
8 operation of the school. Bullying may consist of but is not limited to physical actions, including  
9 gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation  
10 for reporting of such acts. Bullying is prohibited by students on school property, at any school  
11 function, or on a school bus. "Cyberbullying" is bullying as defined in this subsection through the  
12 transmission of a communication, including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by  
13 means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other  
14 wireless communication device, computer, or pager.

15 3. Each district's antibullying policy shall be founded on the assumption that all students  
16 need a safe learning environment. Policies shall treat all students equally and shall not contain  
17 specific lists of protected classes of students who are to receive special treatment. Policies may  
18 include age-appropriate differences for schools based on the grade levels at the school. Each such  
19 policy shall contain a statement of the consequences of bullying.

20 4. Each district's antibullying policy shall require, at a minimum, the following components:

21 (1) A statement prohibiting bullying, defined no less inclusive than that in subsection 1 of  
22 this section;

23 (2) A statement requiring district employees to report any instance of bullying of which the  
24 employee has firsthand knowledge[. The district policy shall address training of employees in the  
25 requirements of the district policy.], has reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been subject to  
26 bullying, or has received a report of bullying from a student. The policy shall be included in the  
27 student handbook;

28 (3) A procedure for reporting an act of bullying;

29 (4) A procedure for prompt investigation of reports of violations and complaints, identifying  
30 one or more employees responsible for the investigation;

31 (5) The range of ways in which a school will respond once an incident of bullying is  
32 confirmed;

33 (6) A statement that prohibits reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of  
34 bullying and the consequence and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in reprisal  
35 or retaliation;

36 (7) A statement of how the policy is to be publicized;

37 (8) A process for discussing the district's antibullying policy with students and training

Action Taken \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 school employees and volunteers who have significant contact with students in the requirements of  
2 the policy, including at a minimum the following statements:

3 (a) The school district shall provide information and appropriate training to the school  
4 district staff who have significant contact with students regarding the policy;

5 (b) The school district shall give annual notice of the policy to students, parents or guardians,  
6 and staff;

7 (c) The school district shall provide education and information to students regarding  
8 bullying, including information regarding the school district policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful  
9 effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to prevent bullying;

10 (d) The administration of the school district shall instruct its school counselors to educate  
11 students who are victims of bullying on techniques for students to overcome bullying's negative  
12 effects. Such techniques shall include, but not be limited to: cultivating the student's self-worth and  
13 self-esteem; teaching the student to defend himself or herself assertively and effectively; helping the  
14 student develop social skills; and encouraging the student to develop an internal locus of control.  
15 The provisions of this paragraph shall not be construed to contradict or limit any other provision of  
16 this section;

17 (e) The administration of the school district shall implement programs and other initiatives  
18 to prevent bullying, to respond to such conduct in a manner that does not stigmatize the victim, and  
19 to make resources or referrals available to victims of bullying."; and

20  
21 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references  
22 accordingly.