

House File 50 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 50
BY HEARTSILL

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
2 awareness and prevention.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 50, paragraph a, Code
2 2015, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Develop and make available to school districts, examples
4 of age-appropriate and research-based materials and lists
5 of resources which parents may use to teach their children
6 to recognize unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
7 to not make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
8 to effectively reject unwanted sexual advances, that it is
9 wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person, about
10 the dangers of sexual exploitation by means of the internet
11 including specific strategies to help students protect
12 themselves and their personally identifiable information
13 from such exploitation, and about counseling, medical, and
14 legal resources available to survivors of sexual abuse and
15 sexual assault, including resources for escaping violent
16 relationships. The materials and resources shall cover verbal,
17 physical, and visual sexual harassment, including nonconsensual
18 sexual advances, and nonconsensual physical sexual contact
19 and shall also cover child sexual abuse and child sexual
20 assault awareness and prevention. In developing the materials
21 and resource list, the director shall consult with entities
22 that shall include but not be limited to the departments of
23 human services, public health, and public safety, education
24 stakeholders, and parent-teacher organizations. School
25 districts shall provide age-appropriate and research-based
26 materials and a list of available community and internet-based
27 resources to parents at registration and shall also include
28 the age-appropriate and research-based materials and resource
29 list in the student handbook. School districts are encouraged
30 to work with their communities to provide voluntary parent
31 education sessions to provide parents with the skills and
32 appropriate strategies to teach their children as described
33 in this subsection. School districts shall incorporate the
34 age-appropriate and research-based materials into relevant
35 curricula and shall reinforce the importance of preventive

1 measures when reasonable with parents and students.

2 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, Code 2015, is amended by adding the
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 20. Adopt rules establishing continuing
5 education requirements for renewal of a license, certificate,
6 statement of professional recognition, or authorization.
7 Continuing education activities may include but are not limited
8 to participating in or presenting at in-service training
9 programs on child sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and
10 prevention.

11 Sec. 3. Section 279.50, subsection 2, Code 2015, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 2. Each school board shall provide age-appropriate and
14 research-based instruction in human growth and development
15 including instruction regarding ~~human~~ the following:

16 a. Human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management,
17 interpersonal relationships, domestic abuse, HPV and the
18 availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and acquired immune
19 deficiency syndrome as required in section 256.11, in grades
20 one through twelve.

21 b. Child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness
22 and prevention in kindergarten through grade twelve, and in
23 prekindergarten if the school district offers a prekindergarten
24 program.

25 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
26 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
27 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
28 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
29 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
30 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
31 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
32 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
33 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
34 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
35 districts.

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EXPLANATION

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

This bill relates to child sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention by providing that continuing education activities authorized by the board of educational examiners for purposes of renewing a license, certificate, statement of professional recognition, or authorization may include participating in or presenting at in-service training programs on child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention. The bill also requires school districts to provide age-appropriate and research-based instruction in child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention as part of its human growth and development instruction in kindergarten through grade twelve, and in prekindergarten if the school district offers a prekindergarten program.

Currently, the director of the department of education has a duty to develop and make available to school districts examples of age-appropriate and research-based materials. The bill specifies that the age-appropriate and research-based materials and resources shall also cover child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention.

The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid received by the school district under Code section 257.16. The specification is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state mandates included in the bill.