

**House File 215 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 215

BY MOHR

(COMPANION TO SF 172 BY TAYLOR)

**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:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 46, paragraph a, Code  
2 2025, 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 of  
5 resources which parents may use to teach their children to  
6 recognize unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances, to  
7 not make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances, to  
8 effectively reject unwanted sexual advances, that it is wrong  
9 to take advantage of or exploit another person, about the  
10 dangers of sexual exploitation by means of the internet including  
11 specific strategies to help students protect themselves and their  
12 personally identifiable information from such exploitation, and  
13 about counseling, medical, and legal resources available to  
14 survivors of sexual abuse and sexual assault, including resources  
15 for escaping violent relationships. The materials and resources  
16 shall cover verbal, physical, and visual sexual harassment,  
17 including nonconsensual sexual advances, ~~and nonconsensual~~  
18 physical sexual contact, and child sexual abuse and child sexual  
19 assault awareness and prevention. In developing the materials  
20 and resource list, the director shall consult with entities that  
21 shall include but not be limited to the departments of health  
22 and human services and public safety, education stakeholders,  
23 and parent-teacher organizations. School districts shall provide  
24 age-appropriate and research-based materials and a list of  
25 available community and internet-based resources to parents  
26 at registration and shall also include the age-appropriate  
27 and research-based materials and resource list in the student  
28 handbook. School districts are encouraged to work with their  
29 communities to provide voluntary parent education sessions to  
30 provide parents with the skills and appropriate strategies  
31 to teach their children as described in this subsection.  
32 School districts shall incorporate the age-appropriate and  
33 research-based materials into relevant curricula and shall  
34 reinforce the importance of preventive measures when reasonable  
35 with parents and students.

1     Sec. 2. Section 256.9, Code 2025, is amended by adding the  
2 following new subsection:

3     NEW SUBSECTION. 69. Develop and distribute to school  
4 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, charter schools, and  
5 innovation zone schools model guidelines related to how to best  
6 provide instruction to students enrolled in kindergarten through  
7 grade six in child sexual abuse and child sexual abuse awareness  
8 and prevention. The model guidelines must provide guidance  
9 related to how to do all of the following:

10    a. Educate students on child sexual abuse prevention using  
11 various methods, including discussions, activities, books, and  
12 guest speakers.

13    b. Give students the knowledge and encouragement to speak up  
14 and alert someone if any person has ever touched the student  
15 inappropriately.

16    c. Educate students on safe touch, unsafe touch, safe  
17 secrets, and unsafe secrets.

18    d. Educate students on how to get away from an abuser and  
19 report an incident immediately.

20     Sec. 3. Section 256.146, Code 2025, is amended by adding the  
21 following new subsection:

22     NEW SUBSECTION. 28. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
23 establishing continuing education requirements for renewal of a  
24 license, certificate, authorization, or statement of recognition.  
25 Continuing education activities may include participating in  
26 or presenting at in-service training programs related to child  
27 sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention.

28     Sec. 4. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended  
29 by adding the following new paragraph:

30     NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ok.* Be subject to and comply with the  
31 requirements of section 280.36 relating to instruction regarding  
32 child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and  
33 prevention provided to students enrolled in kindergarten through  
34 grade six in the same manner as a school district.

35     Sec. 5. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended

1 by adding the following new paragraph:

2 NEW PARAGRAPH. r. Be subject to and comply with the  
3 requirements of section 280.36 relating to instruction regarding  
4 child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and  
5 prevention provided to students enrolled in kindergarten through  
6 grade six in the same manner as a school district.

7 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **280.36 Instruction related to child**  
8 **sexual abuse.**

9 The board of directors of each school district and the  
10 authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school shall  
11 provide instruction related to child sexual abuse and child  
12 sexual assault awareness and prevention that is consistent with  
13 the model guidelines developed and distributed by the director of  
14 the department of education pursuant to section 256.9, subsection  
15 69, to students enrolled in kindergarten through grade six.

16 Sec. 7. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance with  
17 section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
18 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
19 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
20 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
21 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
22 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of section  
23 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall  
24 be necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and  
25 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

26 EXPLANATION

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

29 This bill relates to child sexual abuse and child sexual  
30 assault awareness and prevention.

31 Current law requires the director of the department of  
32 education to develop and make available to school districts  
33 examples of age-appropriate and research-based materials. The  
34 bill provides that the age-appropriate and research-based  
35 materials shall also cover child sexual abuse and child sexual

1 assault awareness and prevention.

2 The bill requires the director of the department of education  
3 to develop and distribute to school districts, accredited  
4 nonpublic schools, charter schools, and innovation zone schools  
5 model guidelines related to how to best provide instruction  
6 to students enrolled in kindergarten through grade six in  
7 child sexual abuse and child sexual abuse awareness and  
8 prevention. The bill establishes requirements related to the  
9 model guidelines.

10 The bill requires school districts, accredited nonpublic  
11 schools, charter schools, and innovation zone schools to provide  
12 instruction related to child sexual abuse and child sexual  
13 assault awareness and prevention that is consistent with the  
14 model guidelines to students enrolled in kindergarten through  
15 grade six.

16 The bill requires the board of educational examiners to  
17 adopt rules that establish continuing education requirements for  
18 renewal of a license, certificate, authorization, or statement  
19 of recognition. The bill establishes that continuing education  
20 activities may include participating in or presenting at  
21 in-service training programs related to child sexual abuse and  
22 child sexual assault awareness and prevention.

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