

Senate File 172 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 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. 0k. 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.