

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 112—ASSEMBLYMAN ELLIOT ANDERSON

FEBRUARY 2, 2015

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the policy concerning a safe and respectful learning environment for children enrolled in public schools throughout the State. (BDR 34-220)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; revising the policy for all school districts and public schools to provide a safe and respectful learning environment; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 The Department of Education is required to prescribe a policy for all school
2 districts and public schools to provide a safe and respectful learning environment
3 that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and violence. (NRS 388.121-388.145)
4 **Section 1** of this bill expands the goals to establish a safe and respectful learning
5 environment in public schools in this State to include ensuring that the quality of
6 instruction is not negatively impacted by poor attitudes or interactions among
7 administrators, principals, teachers or other personnel of a school district. **Section 2**
8 of this bill requires the policy prescribed by the Department for all school districts
9 and public schools to provide a safe and respectful learning environment to include
10 methods to promote a positive learning environment.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 388.132 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 388.132 The Legislature declares that:
3 1. A learning environment that is safe and respectful is
4 essential for the pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State to
5 achieve academic success and meet this State's high academic
6 standards;



2. Any form of bullying or cyber-bullying seriously interferes with the ability of teachers to teach in the classroom and the ability of pupils to learn;

3. The use of the Internet by pupils in a manner that is ethical, safe and secure is essential to a safe and respectful learning environment and is essential for the successful use of technology;

4. The intended goal of the Legislature is to ensure that:

(a) The public schools in this State provide a safe and respectful learning environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential;

(b) All administrators, principals, teachers and other personnel of the school districts and public schools in this State demonstrate appropriate behavior on the premises of any public school by treating other persons, including, without limitation, pupils, with civility and respect and by refusing to tolerate bullying and cyber-bullying; ~~and~~

(c) *The quality of instruction is not negatively impacted by poor attitudes or interactions among administrators, principals, teachers or other personnel of a school district; and*

(d) All persons in public schools are entitled to maintain their own beliefs and to respectfully disagree without resorting to bullying, cyber-bullying or violence; and

5. By declaring its goal that the public schools in this State provide a safe and respectful learning environment, the Legislature is not advocating or requiring the acceptance of differing beliefs in a manner that would inhibit the freedom of expression, but is requiring that pupils with differing beliefs be free from abuse.

Sec. 2. NRS 388.133 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.133 1. The Department shall, in consultation with the boards of trustees of school districts, educational personnel, local associations and organizations of parents whose children are enrolled in public schools throughout this State, and individual parents and legal guardians whose children are enrolled in public schools throughout this State, prescribe by regulation a policy for all school districts and public schools to provide a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying and cyber-bullying.

2. The policy must include, without limitation:

(a) Requirements and methods for reporting violations of NRS 388.135 ~~(1)~~, *including, without limitation, violations among teachers and violations between teachers and administrators, principals and other educational personnel; and*

(b) A policy for use by school districts to train members of the board of trustees and all administrators, principals, teachers and all



1 other personnel employed by the board of trustees of a school
2 district. The policy must include, without limitation:

3 (1) Training in the appropriate methods to facilitate positive
4 human relations among pupils by eliminating the use of bullying
5 and cyber-bullying so that pupils may realize their full academic and
6 personal potential;

7 (2) Training in methods to prevent, identify and report
8 incidents of bullying and cyber-bullying;

9 (3) *Methods to promote a positive learning environment;*

10 (4) Methods to improve the school environment in a manner
11 that will facilitate positive human relations among pupils; and

12 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Methods to teach skills to pupils so that the pupils
13 are able to replace inappropriate behavior with positive behavior.

