
DIGEST

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Dixon

HB No. 178

Abstract: Relative to dating violence, regarding which present law requires instruction for public school students in grades 7-12, proposed law requires public school governing authorities to provide instruction to school employees and information to parents, include information in student codes of conduct, and collect data and requires local superintendents to make annual reports.

Present law requires public school governing authorities to provide to students in grades seven through 12 enrolled in Health Education instruction relative to dating violence. Specifies that such instruction shall include but need not be limited to the definition of dating violence, dating violence warning signs, and characteristics of healthy relationships.

Proposed law further requires the governing authority of each public school enrolling students in grades seven through 12:

- (1) To provide at the beginning of each school year:
 - (a) Instruction to all school employees having contact with students in such grades relative to the definition of dating violence, dating violence warning signs, and how to address suspected or reported dating violence involving students, including counseling and notification of law enforcement.
 - (b) Information relative to dating violence to the parents of students in such grades.
- (2) To include in student codes of conduct the definition of dating violence, dating violence warning signs, and instructions for reporting or seeking help relative to dating violence.
- (3) To collect data relative to the number of incidents of dating violence reported and the actions taken by school employees to assist victims of dating violence.

Proposed law requires each local superintendent, in the spring of each school year, to make a verbal report at a meeting of the school governing authority that includes the compliance of each school with proposed law, aggregate data relative to dating violence, and any recommendations for reducing dating violence among students.

Present law and proposed law are applicable to all public schools enrolling students in grades seven through 12, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:81(T)(3) and (4))