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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 297

01/25/2021 Authored by Noor
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; requiring child safety curriculum; amending Minnesota
1.3 Statutes 2020, section 124E.03, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in
1.4 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 121A.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [121A.24] CHILD SAFETY CURRICULUM.

1.7 (a) A charter school or school district must adopt and provide age-appropriate child
1.8 safety curriculum for its students in kindergarten through grade 12. The school or school
1.9 district must collaborate with local law enforcement or independent self-defense experts to
1.10 deliver the curriculum using videos and role-play demonstrations. The topics addressed in
1.11 the curriculum must include, at a minimum:

- 1.12 (1) stranger danger;
1.13 (2) nonstranger danger, such as family, relatives, neighbors, and others;
1.14 (3) use of the body to protect oneself;
1.15 (4) use of assertiveness and confidence to prevent an attack or abduction;
1.16 (5) good touch and not okay touch;
1.17 (6) internal body warning signs and gut instinct;
1.18 (7) external warning signs, such as being aware of one's surroundings and body for fight
1.19 or flight mode;
1.20 (8) use of code words only known between the parent or guardian and child; and
1.21 (9) how to obtain law enforcement assistance.

2.1 (b) A student must receive child safety instruction once a month for at least 45 minutes
2.2 during the school year. Each session of child safety instruction must include classroom
2.3 discussion with teachers and students following the videos or role-play demonstrations.

2.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2021-2022 school year and later.

2.5 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 124E.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.6 Subd. 2. **Certain federal, state, and local requirements.** (a) A charter school shall
2.7 meet all federal, state, and local health and safety requirements applicable to school districts.

2.8 (b) A school must comply with statewide accountability requirements governing standards
2.9 and assessments in chapter 120B.

2.10 (c) A charter school must comply with the Minnesota Public School Fee Law, sections
2.11 123B.34 to 123B.39.

2.12 (d) A charter school is a district for the purposes of tort liability under chapter 466.

2.13 (e) A charter school must comply with the Pledge of Allegiance requirement under
2.14 section 121A.11, subdivision 3.

2.15 (f) A charter school and charter school board of directors must comply with chapter 181
2.16 governing requirements for employment.

2.17 (g) A charter school must comply with continuing truant notification under section
2.18 260A.03.

2.19 (h) A charter school must develop and implement a teacher evaluation and peer review
2.20 process under section 122A.40, subdivision 8, paragraph (b), clauses (2) to (13), and place
2.21 students in classrooms in accordance with section 122A.40, subdivision 8, paragraph (d).
2.22 The teacher evaluation process in this paragraph does not create any additional employment
2.23 rights for teachers.

2.24 (i) A charter school must adopt a policy, plan, budget, and process, consistent with
2.25 section 120B.11, to review curriculum, instruction, and student achievement and strive for
2.26 the world's best workforce.

2.27 (j) A charter school is subject to and must comply with the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act,
2.28 sections 121A.40 to 121A.56.

2.29 (k) A charter school must adopt and provide child safety curriculum consistent with
2.30 section 121A.24.

2.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2021-2022 school year and later.