



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 915

HOUSE BILL NO. 2472

By Representatives Raper, Russell, Alexander, Hardaway

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2682

By Senator White

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37; Title 39 and Title 49, relative to school employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3401, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(j)

(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a principal, principal-teacher, or assistant principal of a public school in this state, including public charter schools, shall suspend a student who commits an assault, as defined in § 39-13-101, against an employee of the LEA or the public charter school in which the student is enrolled from attendance at school for the period of time specified by the principal, principal-teacher, or assistant principal, and from attendance at all school-sponsored events for no less than one (1) calendar year, unless modified by the director of schools or the director of the public charter school.

(2) Each LEA or public charter school shall advise an LEA or public charter school employee who is assaulted, as defined in § 39-13-101, by a student of the employee's rights as a result of the assault, including, but not limited to, the employee's right to file a report with the appropriate law enforcement agency and judicial authorities.

(3) If a student is suspended for committing an assault against an employee of the student's LEA or public charter school and attends a school-sponsored event during the period of the student's suspension, then the LEA or public charter school must report the violation as trespassing, pursuant to § 39-14-405, and the designated representative for the LEA or public charter school must notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and request the removal of the student from the school-sponsored event.

(4) Each LEA and public charter school shall support and assist an employee who is assaulted by a student in prosecuting the student who committed the assault, and shall encourage the prosecuting attorney to request that the court prohibit the defendant from attending school-sponsored events for a time the court deems appropriate as a part of the sentence for the offense.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

