



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 882

SENATE BILL NO. 2931

By Powers

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2487

By Hurt, Raper, Grills, Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to threats of mass violence made by a student.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3401(g), is amended by designating subdivision (5) as subdivision (6) and adding the following as a new subdivision (5):

(5) If a student threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to § 39-16-517, then the director of schools or the head of the public charter school, as applicable, shall require the student to submit to a threat assessment to determine whether the threat of mass violence made by the student was a valid threat. The student may be suspended from attendance at the school and from school-sponsored activities until the threat assessment is complete. If the director of schools or the head of the public charter school determines, based on the results of the threat assessment required in this subdivision (g)(5), that the threat of mass violence made by the student was not a valid threat, then the student shall not be expelled for committing a zero tolerance offense, but may be suspended in accordance with this section.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3401(g)(2), is amended by deleting subdivision (D) and substituting instead the following:

(D) Subject to subdivision (g)(5), threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to § 39-16-517.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4002(e), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(5) Subject to § 49-6-3401(g)(5), threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to § 39-16-517.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4301, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a)(1) A teacher who observes or otherwise has knowledge of an assault and battery or an act of vandalism endangering life, health, or safety committed by a student on school property shall immediately report such action to the principal of the teacher's school.

(2) A principal who has direct knowledge of an assault and battery or an act of vandalism endangering life, health, or safety committed by a student on school property, or who receives a report of such action, shall immediately report such action to the director of schools and the municipal or metropolitan police department or sheriff's department having jurisdiction.

(3) A director of schools or the head of a public charter school who has knowledge of a valid threat of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to § 39-16-517 made by a student shall immediately report such action to the municipal or metropolitan police department or sheriff's department

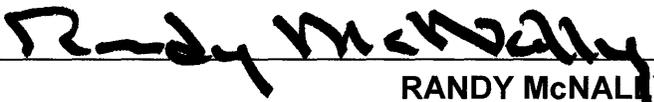
having jurisdiction. A threat of mass violence is valid for purposes of this subdivision (a)(3) if such a determination is made based on the results of the threat assessment required in § 49-6-3401(g)(5).

(4) A fight not involving the use of a weapon as defined in § 39-17-1309, or a fight that does not result in serious personal injury to one (1) or more of the parties involved, must only be reported to the school administrator.

SECTION 5. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 16, 2024



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 1st day of May 2024



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR