



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2008

LCO No. 5352

**\*HB0582605352HDO\***

Offered by:

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To: Subst. House Bill No. 5826

File No. 627

Cal. No. 377

**"AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT."**

1 Strike sections 4 and 5 in their entirety and insert the following in  
2 lieu thereof:

3 "Sec. 4. Section 10-222d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

5 Each local and regional board of education shall develop and  
6 implement a policy [, for use on and after February 1, 2003,] to address  
7 the existence of bullying in its schools. Such policy shall: (1) Enable  
8 students to anonymously report acts of bullying to teachers and school  
9 administrators and require students to be notified annually of the  
10 process by which they may make such reports, (2) enable the parents  
11 or guardians of students to file written reports of suspected bullying,

12 (3) require teachers and other school staff who witness acts of bullying  
13 or receive student reports of bullying to notify school administrators in  
14 writing, (4) require school administrators to investigate any written  
15 reports [filed pursuant to subdivision (2) of] made under this section  
16 and to review any anonymous reports, except that no disciplinary  
17 action shall be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report, (5)  
18 include [an] a prevention and intervention strategy, as defined by this  
19 act, for school staff to deal with bullying, (6) provide for the inclusion  
20 of language in student codes of conduct concerning bullying, (7)  
21 require each school to notify the parents or guardians of students who  
22 commit any verified acts of bullying and the parents or guardians of  
23 students against whom such acts were directed, [to be notified] and  
24 invite them to attend at least one meeting, (8) require each school to  
25 maintain a list of the number of verified acts of bullying in such school  
26 and make such list available for public inspection, and, within  
27 available appropriations, report such number to the Department of  
28 Education, annually and in such manner as prescribed by the  
29 Commissioner of Education, (9) direct the development of case-by-case  
30 interventions for addressing repeated incidents of bullying against a  
31 single individual or recurrently perpetrated bullying incidents by the  
32 same individual that may include both counseling and discipline, and  
33 (10) identify the appropriate school personnel, which may include, but  
34 shall not be limited to, pupil services personnel, responsible for taking  
35 a bullying report and investigating the complaint. The notification  
36 required pursuant to subdivision (7) of this section shall include a  
37 description of the response of school staff to such acts and any  
38 consequences that may result from the commission of further acts of  
39 bullying. For purposes of this section, "bullying" means any overt acts  
40 by a student or a group of students directed against another student  
41 with the intent to ridicule, harass, humiliate or intimidate the other  
42 student while on school grounds, at a school-sponsored activity or on a  
43 school bus, which acts are [repeated against the same student over  
44 time] committed more than once against any student during the school  
45 year. Such policies may include provisions addressing bullying outside  
46 of the school setting if it has a direct and negative impact on a

47 student's academic performance or safety in school. Not later than July  
48 1, 2009, each local or regional board of education shall ensure that the  
49 policy is included in the school district's publication of the rules,  
50 procedures and standards of conduct for schools and in all student  
51 handbooks.

52 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) For the purposes of section 10-  
53 222d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the term  
54 "prevention and intervention strategy" may include, but is not limited  
55 to, (1) implementation of a positive behavioral interventions and  
56 supports process or another evidence-based model approach for safe  
57 school climate or for the prevention of bullying identified by the  
58 Department of Education, (2) a school survey to determine the  
59 prevalence of bullying, (3) establishment of a bullying prevention  
60 coordinating committee with broad representation to review the  
61 survey results and implement the strategy, (4) school rules prohibiting  
62 bullying, harassment and intimidation and establishing appropriate  
63 consequences for those who engage in such acts, (5) adequate adult  
64 supervision of outdoor areas, hallways, the lunchroom and other  
65 specific areas where bullying is likely to occur, (6) inclusion of grade-  
66 appropriate bullying prevention curricula in kindergarten through  
67 high school, (7) individual interventions with the bully, parents and  
68 school staff, and interventions with the bullied child, parents and  
69 school staff, (8) school-wide training related to safe school climate, and  
70 (9) promotion of parent involvement in bullying prevention through  
71 individual or team participation in meetings, trainings and individual  
72 interventions.

73 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
74 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
75 *1, 2009*):

76 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
77 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil  
78 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
79 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such

80 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
81 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)  
82 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,  
83 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental  
84 health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be  
85 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the  
86 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually  
87 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in  
88 section 19a-581, violence, child abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth  
89 and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and  
90 gifted and talented children and children who may require special  
91 education, including, but not limited to, children with attention-deficit  
92 hyperactivity disorder or learning disabilities, and methods for  
93 identifying, planning for and working effectively with special needs  
94 children in a regular classroom, (4) school violence prevention, [and]  
95 conflict resolution and prevention of bullying, as defined in subsection  
96 (a) of section 10-222d, as amended by this act, except that those boards  
97 of education that implement an evidence-based model approach,  
98 consistent with this act, shall not be required to provide in-service  
99 training on prevention of bullying, (5) cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
100 and other emergency life saving procedures, (6) computer and other  
101 information technology as applied to student learning and classroom  
102 instruction, communications and data management, (7) the teaching of  
103 the language arts, reading and reading readiness for teachers in grades  
104 kindergarten to three, inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition in  
105 districts required to provide a program of bilingual education  
106 pursuant to section 10-17f. The State Board of Education, within  
107 available appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall assist  
108 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (A)  
109 Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the historical events  
110 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-American  
111 history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American history; (F)  
112 personal financial management; and (G) topics approved by the state  
113 board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part  
114 of in-service training programs pursuant to this subsection.

115       Sec. 7. Subsection (d) of section 10-145a of the general statutes is  
116       repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
117       *1, 2009*):

118       (d) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation leading to  
119       professional certification shall be encouraged to complete a school  
120       violence, bullying and suicide prevention and conflict resolution  
121       component of such a program."