

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Requires school boards to adopt a written policy that prohibits harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence based on personal characteristics or associating with a person having any of these characteristics. Requires the policy to be posted and discussed and school employees to be trained to respond appropriately. Adds hazing to the policy by reference. Requires school boards to submit a copy of the policy to the education commissioner.

Section

1 School board policy; prohibiting harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence.

Subd. 1. Model policy. Strikes references to sexual, religious, and racial harassment and adds bullying and intimidation as components of a model school board policy.

Subd. 2. Harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence policy. (a) Requires a school board to adopt a written policy, consistent with Minnesota's human rights law and this section, that prohibits harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence based on characteristics such as race, color, creed, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, or physical characteristics, or associating with a person having any of these characteristics. Requires the policy to address all forms of harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence, including electronic and Internet-based forms among other forms. Requires the policy to be posted on the district's Web site. Requires schools to develop a process for discussing the policy and to provide school employees training on responding to harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence.

(b) Requires the school board policy under this section to address student and staff hazing, consistent with the statutory section on hazing.

Subd. 3. Submission to the commissioner. Requires each school board to submit

a copy of its policy to the commissioner.

Makes this section apply to the 2010-2011 school year and later.

- 2 **State and local requirements.** Requires charter schools to comply with the harassment, bullying, intimidation, and violence policy.
- 3 **Repealer.** Strikes the section governing school boards' intimidation and bullying policies (121A.0695).