

Subject Higher education: victim notifications in sexual assault policies

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Overview

This bill amends the sexual harassment and violence policy statute that applies to public and most private postsecondary institutions in Minnesota. That section requires the institution to adopt a written policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence. Subdivision 2 of that section, which is amended in this bill, specifies items that must be included in the institution's policy. The bill amends item 12 so that victims must be notified of programs that offer "legal advocacy services."

A similar measure to what is proposed here passed in 2018 Laws, chapter 201, which was vetoed.

Under the federal Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, *see* 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(8)(B)(vi), and the regulations adopted pursuant to it, *see* 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(b)(11)(iv), institutions are required to notify students about existing "victim advocacy" and "legal assistance" services available for victims on campus and in the community.