CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 2597**

Chapter 48, Laws of 2016

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

SCHOOL DISTRICTS--SEXUAL ABUSE RESPONSE PLANS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/9/2016

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| Passed by the House February 10, 2016  Yeas 97 Nays 0  FRANK CHOPP  **Speaker of the House of Representatives**  Passed by the Senate March 1, 2016  Yeas 48 Nays 0  BRAD OWEN  **President of the Senate** | CERTIFICATE  I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2597** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.  BARBARA BAKER  **Chief Clerk** |
| Approved March 29, 2016 3:52 PM | March 30, 2016 |
| JAY INSLEE  **Governor of the State of Washington** | **Secretary of State**  **State of Washington** |

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**HOUSE BILL 2597**

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Passed Legislature - 2016 Regular Session

**State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Orwall, Magendanz, Reykdal, McBride, Lytton, Caldier, Frame, Rossetti, S. Hunt, and Pollet

AN ACT Relating to sexual abuse response plans; and amending RCW 28A.320.127.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**Sec.**  RCW 28A.320.127 and 2013 c 197 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, each school district must adopt a plan for recognition, initial screening, and response to emotional or behavioral distress in students, including but not limited to indicators of possible substance abuse, violence, ((~~and~~)) youth suicide, and sexual abuse. The school district must annually provide the plan to all district staff.

(2) At a minimum the plan must address:

(a) Identification of training opportunities in recognition, screening, and referral that may be available for staff;

(b) How to use the expertise of district staff who have been trained in recognition, screening, and referral;

(c) How staff should respond to suspicions, concerns, or warning signs of emotional or behavioral distress in students;

(d) Identification and development of partnerships with community organizations and agencies for referral of students to health, mental health, substance abuse, and social support services, including development of at least one memorandum of understanding between the district and such an entity in the community or region;

(e) Protocols and procedures for communication with parents and guardians, including the notification requirements under RCW 28A.320.160;

(f) How staff should respond to a crisis situation where a student is in imminent danger to himself or herself or others; ((~~and~~))

(g) How the district will provide support to students and staff after an incident of violence ((~~or~~)), youth suicide, or allegations of sexual abuse;

(h) How staff should respond when allegations of sexual contact or abuse are made against a staff member, a volunteer, or a parent, guardian, or family member of the student, including how staff should interact with parents, law enforcement, and child protective services; and

(i) How the district will provide to certificated and classified staff the training on the obligation to report physical abuse or sexual misconduct required under RCW 28A.400.317.

(3) The plan under this section may be a separate plan or a component of another district plan or policy, such as the harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention policy under RCW 28A.300.2851 or the comprehensive safe school plan required under RCW 28A.320.125.

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Passed by the House February 10, 2016.

Passed by the Senate March 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor March 29, 2016.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 30, 2016.