
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5916

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Kohl and Pelz)

Read first time 03/01/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring racial harassment policies in school
2 districts; and adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) By December 31, 1995, the
5 superintendent of public instruction shall develop criteria for use by
6 school districts in developing racial harassment policies. The
7 criteria must address the subjects of grievance procedures, remedies to
8 victims of racial harassment, disciplinary actions against violators of
9 the policy, and other subjects at the discretion of the superintendent
10 of public instruction. Disciplinary actions must conform with
11 collective bargaining agreements and state and federal laws. The
12 superintendent of public instruction shall supply sample policies to
13 school districts upon request.

14 (b) By June 30, 1996, every school district shall adopt and
15 implement a written policy concerning racial harassment. The policy
16 shall apply to all school district employees, volunteers, parents, and
17 students, including, but not limited to, conduct between students.

18 (c) School district policies on racial harassment shall be reviewed
19 by the superintendent of public instruction considering the criteria

1 established under (a) of this subsection as part of the monitoring
2 process.

3 (d) The school district's racial harassment policy must be
4 conspicuously posted throughout each school building and provided to
5 each employee. A copy of the policy must appear in any publication of
6 the school or school district setting forth the rules, regulations,
7 procedures, and standards of conduct for the school or school district.

8 (e) Each school shall develop a process for discussing the
9 district's racial harassment policy. The process must ensure the
10 discussion addresses the definition of racial harassment and issues
11 covered in the racial harassment policy.

12 (2) "Racial harassment" as used in this section means an individual
13 has treated another individual differently on the basis of race, color,
14 or national origin in the context of an educational program or activity
15 without a legitimate, nondiscriminatory reason so as to interfere with
16 or limit the ability of the individual to participate in or benefit
17 from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the school or
18 school district.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act shall constitute a new
20 chapter in Title 28A RCW.

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