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HOUSE BILL 1213

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives J. Kohl, Brough, G. Cole, Miller, Anderson, Eide, Wineberry, Riley, Romero, Rust, G. Fisher, Flemming, Leonard, Basich and Pruitt

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to violence-prevention curricula; adding a new  
2 section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is an  
5 increasing incidence of firearms and other dangerous weapons on public  
6 school grounds, with an attendant increase in public concern for the  
7 safety of students. The legislature further finds that the rate and  
8 number of arrests of juveniles for serious and violent crimes is  
9 increasing in Washington state.

10 Instruction of students in violence prevention, including conflict  
11 resolution and safety issues concerning weapons may help reverse the  
12 increasing incidence of violence among youths, enhancing the  
13 educational process and reducing concern about student safety.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 (1) The public schools of this state are encouraged to instruct  
17 students in violence prevention at least once each school year  
18 beginning no later than the fifth grade.

1 (2) By June 30, 1994, the office of the superintendent of public  
2 instruction shall develop model violence-prevention curricula and other  
3 violence-prevention resources, and shall make them available for use in  
4 local school districts.

5 In developing the materials, the superintendent is encouraged to  
6 consult with groups interested in the issues of violence prevention.  
7 By way of illustration and not limitation, such groups could include  
8 education associations, parent-teacher associations, organizations  
9 concerned with issues of firearms ownership and use, and law  
10 enforcement associations. The superintendent may use materials  
11 developed by local school districts or other entities. The materials  
12 may include, but need not be limited to, information on the following:

- 13 (a) Techniques for anger management;
- 14 (b) Strategies for problem solving, including effective  
15 alternatives to violence;
- 16 (c) Personal safety methods appropriate for different ages; and
- 17 (d) Safety issues concerning firearms and other dangerous weapons  
18 including the presence of firearms and other such weapons on school  
19 grounds.

20 (3) Each district board of directors is encouraged to adopt a  
21 violence-prevention education program that may, but need not, be based  
22 on the curricula and resources available under subsection (2) of this  
23 section.

24 (4) Each school district is encouraged, at least one month before  
25 teaching violence-prevention education in any classroom, to conduct at  
26 least one presentation during weekend or evening hours for the parents  
27 and guardians of students. The presentation should concern the  
28 curricula and materials to be used for the violence-prevention  
29 education. A school district conducting a presentation shall notify  
30 parents and guardians of district students of the presentation and that  
31 the curricula and materials are available for inspection.

32 No student may be required to participate in violence-prevention  
33 education if the student's parent or guardian objects in writing to the  
34 participation.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.**   If specific funding for the purposes of this  
2 act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June 30,  
3 1995, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

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