

---

ENGROSSED 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.** The legislature recognizes that  
5 discrimination and harassment based on race, color, or national origin  
6 should not be tolerated in the public schools of the state. The  
7 legislature finds that each local school district can make the best  
8 decisions about which actions or policies are necessary to prevent  
9 discrimination and harassment from occurring in their district.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) By December 31, 1995, the  
11 superintendent of public instruction shall develop criteria for use by  
12 school districts in developing racial harassment policies. The  
13 criteria must address the subjects of grievance procedures, remedies to  
14 victims of racial harassment, disciplinary actions against violators of  
15 the policy, and other subjects at the discretion of the superintendent  
16 of public instruction. Disciplinary actions must conform with  
17 collective bargaining agreements and state and federal laws. The

1 superintendent of public instruction shall supply sample policies to  
2 school districts upon request.

3 (b) School districts may adopt and implement written policies  
4 concerning racial harassment. The policies may apply to all school  
5 district employees, volunteers, parents, and students, including, but  
6 not limited to, conduct between students.

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

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall  
15 constitute a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

--- END ---