CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5689**

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

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| Passed by the Senate April 18, 2019Yeas 30 Nays 19**President of the Senate**Passed by the House April 9, 2019Yeas 60 Nays 36**Speaker of the House of Representatives** | CERTIFICATEI, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5689** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.Secretary |
| Approved  |  |
| **Governor of the State of Washington** | **Secretary of State** **State of Washington** |

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5689**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Liias, Saldaña, Pedersen, Wellman, Wilson, C., Randall, Hunt, McCoy, Salomon, Darneille, Hasegawa, Keiser, Kuderer, and Nguyen)

AN ACT Relating to preventing harassment, intimidation, bullying, and discrimination in public schools; adding a new section to chapter 28A.600 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.642 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.405 RCW; and repealing RCW 28A.300.285.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 28A.600 RCW to read as follows:

PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR BULLYING.

(1)(a) By January 31, 2020, each school district must adopt or amend if necessary a policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any student and that, at a minimum, incorporates the model policy and procedure described in subsection (3) of this section.

(b) School districts must share the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying with parents or guardians, students, volunteers, and school employees in accordance with the rules adopted by the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

(c)(i) Each school district must designate one person in the school district as the primary contact regarding the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying. In addition to other duties required by law and the school district, the primary contact must:

(A) Ensure the implementation of the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying;

(B) Receive copies of all formal and informal complaints relating to harassment, intimidation, or bullying;

(C) Communicate with the school district employees responsible for monitoring school district compliance with chapter 28A.642 RCW prohibiting discrimination in public schools, and the primary contact regarding the school district's policies and procedures related to transgender students under section 2 of this act; and

(D) Serve as the primary contact between the school district, the office of the education ombuds, and the office of the superintendent of public instruction on the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

(ii) The primary contact from each school district must attend at least one training class as provided in subsection (4) of this section, once this training is available.

(iii) The primary contact may also serve as the primary contact regarding the school district's policies and procedures relating to transgender students under section 2 of this act.

(2) School districts are encouraged to adopt and update the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying through a process that includes representation of parents or guardians, school employees, volunteers, students, administrators, and community representatives.

(3)(a) By September 1, 2019, and periodically thereafter, the Washington state school directors' association must collaborate with the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop and update a model policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

(b) Each school district must provide to the office of the superintendent of public instruction a brief summary of its policies, procedures, programs, partnerships, vendors, and instructional and training materials prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying to be posted on the office of the superintendent of public instruction's school safety center web site, and must also provide the office of the superintendent of public instruction with a link to the school district's web site for further information. The school district's primary contact for harassment, intimidation, and bullying issues must annually by August 15th verify posted information and links and notify the school safety center of any updates or changes.

(c) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must publish on its web site, with a link to the school safety center web site, the revised and updated model policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying, along with training and instructional materials on the components that must be included in any school district policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying. By September 1, 2019, the office of the superintendent of public instruction must adopt rules regarding school districts' communication of the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying to parents, students, employees, and volunteers.

(4) By December 31, 2020, the office of the superintendent of public instruction must develop a statewide training class for those people in each school district who act as the primary contact regarding the policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying as provided in subsection (1) of this section. The training class must be offered on an annual basis by educational service districts in collaboration with the office of the superintendent of public instruction. The training class must be based on the model policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying as provided in subsection (3) of this section and include materials related to hazing and the Washington state school directors' association model transgender student policy and procedure as provided in section 2 of this act.

(5) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Electronic" means any communication where there is the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means.

(b)(i) "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act including, but not limited to, one shown to be motivated by any characteristic in RCW 28A.640.010 and 28A.642.010, or other distinguishing characteristics, when the intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act:

(A) Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;

(B) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;

(C) Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or

(D) Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

(ii) Nothing in (b)(i) of this subsection requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for the harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 28A.642 RCW to read as follows:

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO TRANSGENDER STUDENTS.

(1)(a) By January 31, 2020, each school district must adopt or amend if necessary policies and procedures that, at a minimum, incorporate all the elements of the model transgender student policy and procedure described in subsection (3) of this section.

(b) School districts must share the policies and procedures that meet the requirements of (a) of this subsection with parents or guardians, students, volunteers, and school employees in accordance with rules adopted by the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

(c)(i) Each school district must designate one person in the school district as the primary contact regarding the policies and procedures relating to transgender students that meet the requirements of (a) of this subsection. In addition to any other duties required by law and the school district, the primary contact must:

(A) Ensure the implementation of the policies and procedures relating to transgender students that meet the requirements of (a) of this subsection;

(B) Receive copies of all formal and informal complaints relating to transgender students;

(C) Communicate with the school district employees responsible for monitoring school district compliance with this chapter, and the primary contact regarding the school district's policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying under section 1 of this act; and

(D) Serve as the primary contact between the school district, the office of the education ombuds, and the office of the superintendent of public instruction on policies and procedures relating to transgender students that meet the requirements of (a) of this subsection.

(ii) The primary contact from each school district must attend at least one training class as provided in section 1 of this act, once this training is available.

(iii) The primary contact may also serve as the primary contact regarding the school district's policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying under section 1 of this act.

(2) As required by the office of the superintendent of public instruction, each school district must provide to the office of the superintendent of public instruction its policies and procedures relating to transgender students that meet the requirements of subsection (1)(a) of this section.

(3)(a) By September 1, 2019, and periodically thereafter, the Washington state school directors' association must collaborate with the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop and update a model transgender student policy and procedure.

(b) The elements of the model transgender student policy and procedure must, at a minimum: Incorporate the office of the superintendent of public instruction's rules and guidelines developed under RCW 28A.642.020 to eliminate discrimination in Washington public schools on the basis of gender identity and expression; address the unique challenges and needs faced by transgender students in public schools; and describe the application of the model policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying, required under section 1 of this act, to transgender students.

(c) The office of the superintendent of public instruction and the Washington state school directors' association must maintain the model policy and procedure on each agency's web site at no cost to school districts.

(4)(a) By December 31, 2020, the office of the superintendent of public instruction must develop online training material available to all school staff based on the model transgender student policy and procedure described in subsection (3) of this section and the office of the superintendent of public instruction's rules and guidance as provided under this chapter.

(b) The online training material must describe the role of school district primary contacts for monitoring school district compliance with this chapter prohibiting discrimination in public schools, section 1 of this act related to the policies and procedures prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and this section related to policies and procedures relating to transgender students.

(c) The online training material must include best practices for policy and procedure implementation and cultural change that are guided by school district experiences.

(d) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must annually notify school districts of the availability of the online training material.

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

The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in collaboration with the health care authority, the department of health, and the liquor and cannabis board, must review and align the healthy youth survey with the model transgender student policy and procedure developed under section 2 of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 28A.405 RCW to read as follows:

A teacher's evaluation under RCW 28A.405.100 may not be negatively impacted if a teacher chooses to use curriculum or instructional materials that address subject matter related to sexual orientation including gender expression or identity so long as the subject matter is age-appropriate and connected to the teacher's content area.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  RCW 28A.300.285 (Harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention policies and procedures—Model policy and procedure—Training materials—Posting on web site—Rules—Advisory committee) and 2013 c 23 s 50, 2010 c 239 s 2, 2007 c 407 s 1, & 2002 c 207 s 2 are each repealed.

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