

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 61

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CHAPPELLE-NADAL.

Pre-filed December 1, 2014, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

0522S.01I

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 170, RSMo, by adding thereto four new sections relating to violence prevention education in elementary and secondary schools.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 170, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto four new sections, to be known as sections 170.023, 170.026, 170.028, and 170.265, to read as follows:

**170.023. 1. Sections 170.023 to 170.028 shall be known and may be cited as the Missouri Teen Dating Violence Prevention Education Act.**

**2. The purposes of these sections are as follows:**

**(1) To encourage pupils to develop healthy relationships and to recognize dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships; and**

**(2) To provide pupils with the knowledge, skills, services, and information to prevent and respond to teen dating violence.**

**170.026. 1. A school district or charter school may provide teen dating violence prevention education consisting of age-appropriate instruction as part of the health education program it provides to pupils in grades seven to twelve. A school district or charter school may use school personnel or outside consultants who are trained in the appropriate courses to provide this additional instruction.**

**2. A school district or charter school that elects to offer teen dating violence prevention education pursuant to this section shall include instruction and materials regarding teen dating violence and sexual violence that include methods for all of the following:**

**(1) Recognizing what constitutes a healthy relationship;**

12           **(2) Identifying teen dating violence, verbal abuse, nonverbal**  
13 **abuse, physical intimidation, stalking, physical abuse, inappropriate**  
14 **sexual behavior, sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual assault, and**  
15 **internet abuse and cyber bullying; and**

16           **(3) Locating sources for legal, medical, mental health, and other**  
17 **supportive services regarding teen dating violence.**

18           **3. A school district or charter school that elects to offer teen**  
19 **dating violence prevention education pursuant to this section shall**  
20 **satisfy all of the following criteria:**

21           **(1) Instruction and materials shall be age appropriate;**

22           **(2) All factual information presented shall be medically accurate**  
23 **and objective;**

24           **(3) Instruction and materials shall teach respect for marriage**  
25 **and committed relationships that are voluntary, healthy, and safe; and**

26           **(4) Instruction and materials shall teach pupils the skills to**  
27 **recognize and aspire to healthy, respectful relationships including all**  
28 **of the following:**

29           **(a) Communication skills that help them discuss and resolve**  
30 **conflicts within intimate relationships with respect and nonviolence;**

31           **(b) Critical thinking skills;**

32           **(c) Skills to negotiate with a dating partner; and**

33           **(d) Skills for pupils to recognize and understand their own**  
34 **individual boundaries, and recognize and respect the boundaries of**  
35 **others.**

36           **4. Instruction and materials shall not reflect or promote bias**  
37 **against any person on the basis of disability, gender, nationality, race**  
38 **or ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.**

**170.028. 1. Each school district or charter school may establish**  
2 **and implement a teen dating violence and sexual violence prevention**  
3 **curriculum.**

4           **2. Each school district or charter school may consult with the**  
5 **department of health and senior services, the attorney general, and**  
6 **domestic violence and sexual assault prevention advocates for advice**  
7 **on the development of grade-level concepts and content guidelines to**  
8 **be incorporated into sexual health and health education programs**  
9 **taught to pupils in any of grades seven to twelve. Any materials**  
10 **produced pursuant to this section shall focus on educating pupils**

11 regarding teen dating violence, sexual violence, and healthy  
12 relationships and shall include the following requirements:

13 (1) Teen dating violence and sexual violence education shall  
14 include, but is not limited to, defining teen dating violence and sexual  
15 violence, and recognizing teen dating violence warning signs, and  
16 characteristics of healthy relationships, and information about legal,  
17 medical, and mental health services;

18 (2) The curriculum shall focus on educating pupils regarding  
19 teen dating violence and sexual violence prevention; and

20 (3) The curriculum shall be developed through interagency  
21 collaborations with advocates who work in the areas of domestic  
22 violence, teen dating violence, and sexual violence.

23 3. Each school district or charter school may incorporate teen  
24 dating violence prevention education into the sexual health and health  
25 education program currently taught to pupils in any of grades seven to  
26 twelve. Teen dating violence prevention education may be an  
27 independent section in the health curriculum.

170.265. 1. Each school district or charter school may establish  
2 and implement an age-appropriate curriculum to educate students  
3 about domestic violence. Such a curriculum may include components  
4 to:

5 (1) Raise awareness of the incidence of domestic violence;

6 (2) Promote healthy behaviors in relationships;

7 (3) Allow students to identify the signs that an individual may be  
8 a victim of domestic violence;

9 (4) Allow students to identify the behaviors associated with an  
10 abuser or perpetrator of domestic violence;

11 (5) An emphasis on the primary prevention of violence  
12 perpetration.

13 2. A school district or charter school may include information  
14 about the identification of risk factors for perpetration of domestic  
15 violence, including but not limited to:

16 (1) History of violence or aggression in the past;

17 (2) Seeing or being a victim of violence as a child;

18 (3) Substance abuse, including but not limited to alcohol or  
19 drugs;

20 (4) Being unemployed or experiencing other life events that

21 cause stress.

22           3. A curriculum may also contain information about types of  
23 behavior that may occur in conjunction with the incidence of domestic  
24 violence: physical violence, sexual violence, threats, emotional abuse,  
25 verbal abuse, and financial abuse. A curriculum may advise students  
26 about the physical injury, mental health consequences, suicide  
27 attempts, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, and other  
28 health consequences that a victim of domestic violence may experience.

29           4. A curriculum may include information about how victims of  
30 domestic violence may seek assistance, or how friends or family of  
31 victims may provide assistance to them.

32           5. To develop a curriculum, a school district or charter school  
33 may cooperate or collaborate with federal agencies, state and local  
34 health departments, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions,  
35 international agencies, private industry, or other entities that have  
36 expertise in collecting data about domestic violence, learning about  
37 risk factors, developing strategies for prevention, or developing  
38 effective prevention approaches.

Bill ✓  
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