

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[P E R F E C T E D]

SENATE BILL NO. 79

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILSON.

Pre-filed December 1, 2008, and ordered printed.

Read 2nd time January 22, 2009, and referred to the Committee on Education.

Reported from the Committee February 18, 2009, with recommendation that the bill do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Taken up February 25, 2009. Read 3rd time and placed upon its final passage; bill passed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0052S.01P

AN ACT

To repeal section 160.775, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to anti-bullying policies.

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

Section A. Section 160.775, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 160.775, to read as follows:

160.775. 1. Every district shall adopt an antibullying policy by September
2 1, 2007.

3 2. "Bullying" means intimidation or harassment that causes a reasonable
4 student to fear for his or her physical safety or property. Bullying may consist
5 of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, **cyberbullying, electronic,** or
6 written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such acts.

7 3. Each district's antibullying policy shall be founded on the assumption
8 that all students need a safe learning environment. Policies shall treat students
9 equally and shall not contain specific lists of protected classes of students who are
10 to receive special treatment. Policies may include age appropriate differences for
11 schools based on the grade levels at the school. Each such policy shall contain
12 a statement of the consequences of bullying.

13 4. Each district's antibullying policy shall require district employees to
14 report any instance of bullying of which the employee has firsthand
15 knowledge. The district policy shall address training of employees in the
16 requirements of the district policy.

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