

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 587

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CHAPPELLE-NADAL.

Pre-filed December 22, 2011, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4569S.03I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 170, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to domestic violence 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 one new
2 section, to be known as section 170.265, to read as follows:

**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. A curriculum may communicate information as to how
33 domestic violence affects society as a whole because of increased
34 medical care costs, an increased need for mental health services, and
35 lost productivity for employers.

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

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