

ARKANSAS SENATE
86th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2007
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1072

"AN ACT TO DEFINE BULLYING AND TO INCLUDE CYBERBULLYING IN PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANTIBULLYING POLICIES."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1072.

Amend House Bill No. 1072 as engrossed, H1/19/07 (version: 01-19-2007 09:46):

Page 1, line 33, delete "cyberbullyies" and substitute "cyberbullies".

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-514(a) and (b)(1) and (2) regarding public school district antibullying policies, are amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) The General Assembly finds that every public school student in this state has the right to receive his or her public education in a public school educational environment that is reasonably free from substantial intimidation, harassment, or harm or threat of harm by another student.

(2) The school board of directors in every public school district shall adopt policies to prevent pupil harassment, also known as bullying.

(3) As used in this subchapter:

(A) "Bullying" means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that causes or creates a clear and present danger of:

(i) Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;

(ii) Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;

(iii) A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or

(iv) Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

(B) "Electronic act" means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device,



including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager;

(C) "Harassment" means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment; and

(D) "Substantial disruption" means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

(i) Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;

(ii) Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;

(iii) Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or

(iv) Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

(b) The policies shall:

(1)(A) Clearly define conduct that constitutes bullying.

(B) The definition shall include without limitation the definition contained in subsection (a) of this section;

(2) Prohibit bullying:

(A) while While in school, on school equipment or property, in school vehicles, on school buses, at designated school bus stops, at school-sponsored activities, ~~or~~ at school-sanctioned events; or

(B)(1) By an electronic act that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

(2) This section shall apply to an electronic act whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

SECTION. 2. Separability. The provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be separable and if any section or provision of this Act is determined to be invalid, such determination shall not affect the validity of any remaining section or provision of this Act."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Bisbee

CLR/CLR - 01-31-2007 10:35

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Secretary