

CHAPTER 2010-217

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 467

An act relating to public K-12 education; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; providing that comprehensive health education taught in the public schools shall include a component on teen dating violence and abuse for students in grades 7 through 12; creating s. 1006.148, F.S.; requiring district school boards to adopt and implement a dating violence and abuse policy; providing policy requirements; requiring the Department of Education to develop a model policy; requiring school personnel training; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (2) of section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.42 Required instruction.—

(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

(n) Comprehensive health education that addresses concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; nutrition; personal health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse.

The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.

Section 2. Section 1006.148, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1006.148 Dating violence and abuse prohibited.—

(1) Each district school board shall adopt and implement a dating violence and abuse policy. The policy shall:

(a) Prohibit dating violence and abuse by any student on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.

(b) Provide procedures for responding to such incidents of dating violence or abuse, including accommodations for students experiencing dating violence or abuse.

(c) Define dating violence and abuse and provide for a teen dating violence and abuse component in the health education curriculum, according to s. 1003.42(2)(n), with emphasis on prevention education.

(d) Be implemented in a manner that is integrated with a school district's discipline policies.

(2) By January 1, 2011, the Department of Education shall develop a model policy to serve as a guide for district school boards in the development of the dating violence and abuse policy described in subsection (1).

(3) Each district school board shall provide training for teachers, staff, and school administrators to implement this section.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor June 4, 2010.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 4, 2010.