

CS/HB 467 — Teen Dating Violence Prevention

by PreK-12 Policy Committee, Representative Jones and others (CS/SB 642 by Education Pre-K – 12 Committee and Senators Smith, Sobel, and Rich)

The bill requires district school boards to provide instruction to students in grades 7-12 regarding dating violence and abuse, warning signs of such behavior, characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims.

School boards would be required to adopt a policy on teen dating violence and abusive behavior to:

- Prohibit dating violence and abuse by any student on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation;
- Provide procedures for responding to such incidents of dating violence or abuse, including accommodations for students experiencing dating violence or abuse;
- Define dating violence and abuse and provide for a teen dating violence and abuse component in the health education curriculum with an emphasis on prevention education;
- Implement the dating violence and abuse policy in a manner that is integrated with their school district's discipline policies; and
- Provide dating violence and abuse prevention training to teachers, staff, and school administrators to facilitate implementation of this act.

The bill requires the Department to develop a model policy by January 1, 2011, to serve as a guide for district school boards in developing policies that prohibit dating violence and abuse.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010

Vote: Senate 34-4; House 108-1