



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Holly Cantrell Gillman

H.B. 543*

129th General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Education)

Reps. Anielski, Grossman, Okey, Antonio, Baker, Stinziano, Patmon, Milkovich, Sears, Pillich, Brenner, Stebelton, Roegner, Wachtmann, O'Brien, Gonzales, Fende, Duffey, Garland, Hackett, Ramos, Smith, Yuko, J. Adams, R. Adams, Ashford, Barnes, Beck, Blair, Blessing, Boyce, Boyd, Bulp, Buchy, Budish, Carney, Celebrezze, Celeste, Clyde, Conditt, Damschroder, Derickson, DeVitis, Dovilla, Driehaus, Fedor, Foley, Gardner, Gerberry, Goodwin, Goyal, C. Hagan, R. Hagan, Hall, Hayes, Heard, Henne, Hill, Huffman, Johnson, Kozlowski, Landis, Letson, Luckie, Lundy, Lynch, Maag, Martin, McClain, McGregor, Newbold, Pelanda, Phillips, Reece, Rosenberger, Ruhl, Scherer, Schuring, M. Slaby, Slesnick, Sprague, Stautberg, Szollosi, Terhar, Thompson, Uecker, Williams, Winburn, Young, Batchelder

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and educational service centers to train teachers and certain other staff in youth suicide awareness and prevention.
- Identifies the bill as the "Jason Flatt Act, Ohio, in honor of Joseph Anielski."

CONTENT AND OPERATION

In-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention

The bill requires school districts, community (charter) schools, STEM schools, and educational service centers to provide training in youth suicide awareness and prevention to all teachers, administrators, counselors, nurses, and school psychologists they employ and any other personnel they determine appropriate. Each employer must either (1) adopt or adapt the curriculum developed by the Department of Education or (2) develop its own curriculum in consultation with public or private agencies or

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Education Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

persons involved in youth suicide awareness and prevention programs. The training counts toward professional development required by the employer and may be accomplished through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials approved by the employer.¹

The bill requires this training to be incorporated into the in-service training required by existing law for persons employed by schools as nurses, teachers, administrators, counselors, or school psychologists. This in-service training currently includes training on the following topics: (1) prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse, (2) promotion of positive youth development, (3) school safety and violence prevention, (4) beginning November 4, 2012, the school's anti-bullying policy, and (5) in the case of middle schools and high schools, the prevention of dating violence. Employees must complete at least four hours of this in-service training within two years after commencing employment and every five years thereafter.²

The bill specifies that it is to be known as the "Jason Flatt Act, Ohio, in honor of Joseph Anielski."³

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-09-12
Reported, H. Health & Aging	05-23-12
Passed House (97-0)	05-24-12
Reported, S. Education	12-05-12

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¹ R.C. 3319.073(D); see also R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(d) (not in the bill) and 3326.11 (not in the bill).

² R.C. 3319.073(A), (B), and (C).

³ Section 3.