



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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**Bill:** [H.B. 116 of the 129th G.A.](#)

**Date:** April 6, 2011

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Rep. Barnes

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Contents:** Requires age appropriate instruction on, and parental notification of, public schools' policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying

### State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- School district, community, and STEM schools may incur minimal administrative costs for providing students instruction twice a year on the schools' policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying and for sending to the home of each student a written statement describing the policy and consequences of violating that policy.

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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Continuing law requires public schools to adopt a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying. These policies appear in student handbooks and are incorporated into school employee training materials. Current law also requires schools to develop a process for educating students about the policy. The bill replaces this requirement with a requirement that schools provide students with age-appropriate instruction on their policies twice a year. Depending on the process already developed by the school, the bill's specific process may result in a minimal increase or decrease in administrative costs for the school.

The bill also requires that schools send to the home of each student a written statement describing the policy and consequences of violating the policy, along with an acknowledgement of receipt of the statement. Parents are required to sign and return the acknowledgment to the school. Schools may incur minimal administrative costs in sending written statements to a student's home. However, the bill permits schools to send these statements home with report cards, which presumably would lower any costs.