



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

Jennifer Stump

Sub. H.B. 116

129th General Assembly
(S. Education)

School anti-bullying policies

Requires school districts, community (charter) schools, and STEM schools to expand their student anti-bullying policies to cover incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying that occur on school buses.

Requires the anti-bullying policies to prohibit harassment, intimidation, or bullying by electronic means (cyberbullying).

Specifies that anti-bullying policies must include: (1) a statement providing for possible suspension of students who engage in cyberbullying, (2) means for making anonymous reports of incidents, (3) disciplinary procedures for students who make false reports, and (4) strategies for protecting other persons (in addition to the victim, as in current law) from harassment or retaliation after a report has been made.

Requires school districts, community schools, and STEM schools to make available to students and parents an explanation of the seriousness of cyberbullying.

With respect to the House version's requirement that student instruction on districts' and schools' anti-bullying policies include a discussion of the consequences for policy violations, specifies that the discussion may be written or verbal.

Allows the annual anti-bullying policy statement that districts and schools must send parents under the House version to be delivered electronically.

Requires districts, schools, and educational service centers to provide training on their anti-bullying policies as part of the in-service training required for all teachers, administrators, counselors, nurses, and school psychologists under current law.

Directs the State Board of Education, within six months after the bill's effective date, to update its model anti-bullying policy to address cyberbullying.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.

Changes the title of the bill to the "Jessica Logan Act" (instead of the "School Day Security and Anti-Bullying Act," as in the House version).

Residency status for in-state tuition

Grants residency status, for purposes of in-state tuition, to students who completed their homeschooling in Ohio and re-establish domicile in Ohio to enroll in a state institution of higher education, regardless of their residence prior to enrollment.

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