

Senate Bill No. 332–Senator Seevers Gansert

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to education; directing the Legislative Committee on Education to study the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Section 2 of this bill directs the Legislative Committee on Education to conduct an interim study concerning the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment. **Section 2** also requires the Committee to consult with and solicit input from certain persons and organizations with expertise and experience in matters relevant to the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment. **Section 2.5** of this bill requires the Committee, in conducting the study, to: (1) review certain specific subjects relating to the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment; and (2) make recommendations concerning any matter relating to the study, including recommendations concerning proposed legislation.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. As used in sections 2 and 2.5 of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, “discriminatory harassment” means discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry or gender identity or expression.

Sec. 2. 1. The Legislative Committee on Education shall study the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment to ensure that each pupil enrolled in an elementary school, junior high school, middle school or high school in this State and each student enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education is provided with equal access to education.

2. The Committee shall consult with and solicit input from persons and organizations with expertise or experience in matters relevant to bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment, including, without limitation:

(a) For the southern region of this State, the northern region of this State and the rural region of this State, one or more



representatives from school districts, elementary schools, junior high schools, middle schools and high schools for each region;

(b) For the southern region of this State and the northern region of this State, one or more representatives from a community college and university of the Nevada System of Higher Education located in each region;

(c) Representatives of organizations that assist victims of sexual assault, sexual harassment or similar crimes, including, without limitation:

(1) The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence;

(2) Crisis Support Services of Nevada; and

(3) The Rape Crisis Center;

(d) Representatives with expertise in representing the rights of a person who is accused of misconduct concerning bullying, cyber-bullying or discriminatory harassment in violation of federal, state or local law, including, without limitation, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto; and

(e) Students enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

3. On or before February 1, 2021, the Legislative Committee on Education shall submit the report of its findings and any recommendations to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Sec. 2.5. In studying the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment, the Legislative Committee on Education shall:

1. Review Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and any regulations proposed or adopted pursuant thereto;

2. Consider the existing laws of this State concerning the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment that is free of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment and laws of this State concerning misconduct which constitutes bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment including, without limitation, the definition of such conduct, the response to such conduct, whether pupils enrolled in an elementary school, junior high school, middle school or high school feel safe at school, whether students enrolled in an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education feel safe at that institution and whether the concerns of such pupils and students are addressed;



3. Consider whether a person employed by the board of trustees of a school district should be represented by a third-party if such an employee is accused of bullying, cyber-bullying or discriminatory harassment;

4. Identify methods for responding to retaliation against a victim of bullying, cyber-bullying and discriminatory harassment; and

5. Make recommendations concerning any matter relating to the study including, without limitation, recommendations concerning proposed legislation.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

