

Subject Bullying in schools
Authors Robbins and others
Analyst Cristina Parra
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Overview

This bill modifies the Minnesota student bullying law. Current law defines bullying, prohibits bullying at school and by electronic means, and requires schools to develop and implement policies to prevent and address student bullying. The bill codifies a new statute regarding providing parents notice of bullying and other incidents and a school's response to prohibited conduct. The new statute uses the terms defined in the current student bullying law; key definitions in section 121A.031, subdivision 2 include:

“Bullying” means intimidating, abusive, or harming conduct that is objectively offensive and:

- (1) there is an actual or perceived imbalance of power between the student engaging in prohibited conduct and the target of the behavior and the conduct is repeated or forms a pattern; or
- (2) materially and substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities or performance or ability to participate in school functions or activities or receive school benefits, services, or privileges.

“Prohibited conduct” means bullying or cyberbullying as defined in this subdivision or retaliation for asserting, alleging, reporting, or providing information about such conduct or knowingly making a false report about bullying.

“Remedial response” means a measure to stop and correct prohibited conduct, prevent prohibited conduct from recurring, and protect, support, and intervene on behalf of the student who is the target of the prohibited conduct.

Summary

Section	Description
1	<p>Local policy components. [School student bullying policy]</p> <p>Modifies requirement that school policy indicate how a school will respond to an identified incident of prohibited conduct. Strikes language that is recodified in new section 121A.032 (section 2 of the bill).</p>
2	<p>School's response to prohibited conduct and other adverse incidents.</p> <p>States that it is presumed that a district or school official will notify the parent of the reported target of prohibited conduct and the parent of the actor engaged in prohibited conduct as soon as practicable, and will notify the parent of a student as soon as practicable in other specified instances. Recodifies language stricken in section 1 relating to data practices and a parent designating another individual to be notified of prohibited conduct. Recodifies requirements for school's response to prohibited conduct that was stricken in section 1.</p>



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