

Chapter 108

2026 Regular Session

Subject Student Safety**Bill** H.F. 3489**Analyst** Cristina Parra, Sarah Sunderman, Jeff Diebel**Date** June 4, 2026

Overview

This act modifies provisions relating to teacher licensure when a teacher is charged with certain crimes, requires law enforcement to notify a licensing board when a teacher is charged with certain crimes, requires the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to update training for mandatory reporters, clarifies that alleged maltreatment may be investigated even if it occurred more than three years before a maltreatment report, establishes an offense of grooming, and makes other changes.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Grounds for revocation, suspension, or denial. [Suspension or revocation of licenses] Adds grooming to the list of offenses that, if a teacher is convicted of, automatically trigger a license denial, refusal to renew, or revocation without a right to a hearing.
2	Mandatory reporting. [Suspension or revocation of licenses] Requires a police department or county sheriff to notify the appropriate licensing board when a teacher is criminally charged with an offense that triggers automatic license denial, refusal to renew, or revocation without a right to a hearing, or with any other offense that requires the person to register as a predatory offender.
3	Commissioner of Children, Youth, and Families; education-related mandated reporter training module on grooming. By August 1, 2027, requires the commissioner of children, youth, and families to update training for mandatory reporters to include content on reporting maltreatment allegations involving students receiving special education services and on identifying and reporting grooming and threatened sexual abuse. Requires consultation with the Department of Education.

Section	Description
4	Screening guidelines. Adds paragraph (c) to prohibit the commissioner of children, youth, and families' screening guidelines from limiting an agency's ability to screen in and investigate a report of alleged maltreatment that occurred more than three years prior to the report.
5	Definitions. Defines the term "pattern" as "two or more instances of conduct" for purposes of section 609.352 (Solicitation of Children to Engage in Sexual Conduct; Communication of Sexually Explicit Materials to Children). "Pattern" is a term used in the proposed grooming offense in section 9.
6	Grooming. Establishes the crime of grooming. Grooming occurs when a person, 18 years old or older, expresses to a child (under the age of 16) the desire or intent to engage in sexual conduct with that child and engages in a deliberate pattern of conduct to methodically develop a false trusting relationship with the child that is intended to strategically manipulate the child to engage in sexual conduct with the person. Effective August 1, 2026, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.
7	Violations by person in positions of authority. Provides that a person commits a felony violation of section 609.352 if the person who is in a position of authority over the victim, is more than 36 months older than the victim, and the victim is under 18 years old. Effective August 1, 2026, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.
8	School violations. Establishes that a person committing any of the acts that are crimes under section 609.352 (including grooming) is guilty of a felony if the person is employed or contracted to provide services for an elementary, middle, or secondary school and the victim is enrolled as a student at the school. Effective August 1, 2026, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.
9	Penalty. Adds grooming, violations by persons in a position of authority, and school violations to the penalties under section 609.352. Effective August 1, 2026, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.
10	Appropriations. Appropriates money to the commissioner of education to increase the capacity of the student maltreatment program.

Section	Description
11	Contingent appropriation. Clarifies that if more than one appropriation for the same purpose is enacted during the 2026 legislative session that the appropriation is only effective once.



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