

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2316

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LAMPE.

Read 1st time February 28, 2008 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

4906L.01I

AN ACT

To repeal section 160.775, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to cyberbullying.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 160.775, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 160.775, to read as follows:

160.775. 1. Every district shall adopt an antibullying policy by September 1, 2007.

2 2. "Bullying" means intimidation or harassment that causes a reasonable student to fear
3 for his or her physical safety or property. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including
4 gestures, or oral or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such
5 acts. **Cyberbullying, as defined in subsection 3 of this section, constitutes bullying for**
6 **purposes of this section.**

7 3. "Cyberbullying" includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, web sites,
8 the Internet, cell phones, text messaging, chat rooms, and instant messages to ridicule,
9 harass, intimidate, humiliate, or otherwise bully a student.

10 [3.] 4. Each district's antibullying policy shall be founded on the assumption that all
11 students need a safe learning environment. Policies shall treat students equally and shall not
12 contain specific lists of protected classes of students who are to receive special treatment.
13 Policies may include age appropriate differences for schools based on the grade levels at the
14 school. Each such policy shall contain a statement of the consequences of bullying.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

15 [4.] **5.** Each district's antibullying policy shall require district employees to report any
16 instance of bullying of which the employee has firsthand knowledge. The district policy shall
17 address training of employees in the requirements of the district policy.

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