

HB 1085 -- SOCIAL TRANSITION ASSISTANCE IN SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Gragg

This bill restricts public school staff members from engaging in topics of sexual orientation or gender identity in classroom discussions or instruction that does not follow the state content standards or curriculum approved by the school board.

The bill further restricts the discussion of such topics in extracurricular activities, discussions of staff members' personal sexual orientation or gender identity, or the displaying of information symbols promoting the topics of sexual orientation or gender identity on public school grounds.

This bill requires parental notification for any student who confides in a staff member on the topic of sexual orientation or gender identity. Staff members that do not refrain from engaging students or provide information beyond the scope of the law will face discipline measures including termination and referrals to the appropriate prosecuting or circuit attorney for charges for the offense of contributing to social transition.

The bill creates the class E Felony offense of "contributing to social transition" if any staff member of a public school provides support in a material manner or with approval, assistance, or encouragement to any student under 18 years of age that takes steps to express a gender identity other than that which was associated with their biological sex. If convicted a person must register as a sexual offender.

This bill adds "contributing to social transition" to the Tier 1 sexual offenders list of offenses.