Sen. John G. Mulroe

Filed: 4/30/2019

10100HB2084sam001   LRB101 06951 AXK 58880 a

1   AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 2084

2   AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 2084 by replacing

3   everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4   "Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section

5   2-3.176 as follows:

6   (105 ILCS 5/2-3.176 new)

7   Sec. 2-3.176. Safe Schools and Healthy Learning

8   Environments Grant Program.

9   (a) The State Board of Education, subject to appropriation,

10   is authorized to award competitive grants on an annual basis

11   under a Safe Schools and Healthy Learning Environments Grant

12   Program. The goal of this grant program is to promote school

13   safety and healthy learning environments by providing schools

14   with additional resources to implement restorative

15   interventions and resolution strategies as alternatives to

16   exclusionary discipline, and to address the full range of

1   students' intellectual, social, emotional, physical,

2   psychological, and moral developmental needs.

3   (b) To receive a grant under this program, a school

4   district must submit with its grant application a plan for

5   implementing evidence-based and promising practices that are

6   aligned with the goal of this program. The application may

7   include proposals to (i) hire additional school support

8   personnel, including, but not limited to, restorative justice

9   practitioners, school psychologists, school social workers,

10 and other mental and behavioral health specialists; (ii) use

11 existing school-based resources, community-based resources, or

12 other experts and practitioners to expand alternatives to

13 exclusionary discipline, mental and behavioral health

14 supports, wraparound services, or drug and alcohol treatment;

15 and (iii) provide training for school staff on trauma-informed

16 approaches to meeting students' developmental needs,

17 addressing the effects of toxic stress, restorative justice

18 approaches, conflict resolution techniques, and the effective

19 utilization of school support personnel and community-based

20 services. For purposes of this subsection, "promising

21 practices" means practices that present, based on preliminary

22 information, potential for becoming evidence-based practices.

23   Grant funds may not be used to increase the use of

24 school-based law enforcement or security personnel. Nothing in

25 this Section shall prohibit school districts from involving law

26 enforcement personnel when necessary and allowed by law.

1   (c) The State Board of Education, subject to appropriation
2 for the grant program, shall annually disseminate a request for
3 applications to this program, and funds shall be distributed
4 annually. The criteria to be considered by the State Board of
5 Education in awarding the funds shall be (i) the average ratio
6 of school support personnel to students in the target schools
7 over the preceding 3 school years, with priority given to
8 applications with a demonstrated shortage of school support
9 personnel to meet student needs; and (ii) the degree to which
10 the proposal articulates a comprehensive approach for reducing
11 exclusionary discipline while building safe and healthy
12 learning environments. Priority shall be given to school
13 districts that meet the metrics under subsection (b) of Section
14 2-3.162.
15   (d) The State Board of Education, subject to appropriation
16 for the grant program, shall produce an annual report on the
17 program in cooperation with the school districts participating
18 in the program. The report shall include available quantitative
19 information on the progress being made in reducing exclusionary
20 discipline and the effects of the program on school safety and
21 school climate. This report shall be posted on the State Board
22 of Education's website by October 31 of each year, beginning in
23 2020.
24   (e) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules
25 necessary for the implementation of this program.

1   Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
2   2019.".