



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

**HB4084**

Introduced 1/16/2020, by Rep. John M. Cabello

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

325 ILCS 5/7.6

from Ch. 23, par. 2057.6

Amends the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Permits school-aged children under the age of 18 to use the statewide toll-free telephone number established under the Act to report alleged incidents of bullying or hazing that occur at their school. Provides that children who report an alleged incident of bullying or hazing to the statewide toll-free telephone number may remain anonymous. Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to provide callers with information on how to handle an alleged incident of bullying or hazing, which may include a list of available resources developed or provided by other federal or State agencies concerning bullying or hazing prevention. Provides that upon receipt of a child's report of bullying or hazing, the Department shall report the incident as soon as possible to the superintendent of the school district in which the child resides or, if the child attends a non-public school, the administrator of the non-public school. Provides that reports of bullying or hazing made to the statewide toll-free telephone number shall not initiate a child abuse or neglect investigation under the Act. Requires the Department to (i) inform all school districts and non-public schools of the statewide toll-free telephone number and its function to receive reports of bullying or hazing and (ii) post on its website, in a relevant and conspicuous place, information on how a child can report an alleged incident of bullying or hazing to the statewide toll-free telephone number.

LRB101 17014 KTG 66414 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning children.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 7.6 as follows:

6 (325 ILCS 5/7.6) (from Ch. 23, par. 2057.6)

7 Sec. 7.6. (a) There shall be a single State-wide, toll-free  
8 telephone number established and maintained by the Department  
9 which all persons, whether or not mandated by law, may use to  
10 report suspected child abuse or neglect at any hour of the day  
11 or night, on any day of the week. Immediately upon receipt of  
12 such reports, the Department shall transmit the contents of the  
13 report, either orally or electronically, to the appropriate  
14 Child Protective Service Unit. Any other person may use the  
15 State-wide number to obtain assistance or information  
16 concerning the handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

17 Wherever the Statewide number is posted, there shall also  
18 be posted the following notice:

19 "Any person who knowingly transmits a false report to the  
20 Department commits the offense of disorderly conduct under  
21 subsection (a) (7) of Section 26-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012.  
22 A violation of this subsection is a Class 4 felony."

23 (b) As used in this subsection:

1 "Bullying" has the meaning ascribed to that term in Section  
2 27-23.7 of the School Code.

3 "Hazing" means an act of hazing as described in Section  
4 12C-50 of the Criminal Code of 2012.

5 School-aged children under the age of 18 may use the  
6 statewide toll-free telephone number established under  
7 subsection (a) to report alleged incidents of bullying or  
8 hazing that occur at their school. Children who call the  
9 statewide toll-free telephone number to report an alleged  
10 incident of bullying or hazing may remain anonymous. Through  
11 the statewide toll-free telephone number, the Department shall  
12 provide callers with information on how to handle an alleged  
13 incident of bullying or hazing. The information provided may  
14 include a list of available resources developed or provided by  
15 other federal or State agencies concerning bullying or hazing  
16 prevention. Upon receipt of a child's report of bullying or  
17 hazing, the Department shall report the incident as soon as  
18 possible to the superintendent of the school district in which  
19 the child resides or, if the child attends a non-public school,  
20 the administrator of the non-public school. Reports made to the  
21 statewide toll-free telephone number concerning an alleged  
22 incident of bullying or hazing shall not initiate a child abuse  
23 or neglect investigation under this Act and shall not be  
24 transmitted to any Child Protective Services Unit.

25 The Department shall inform all school districts and  
26 non-public schools in the State that school-aged children under

1 the age of 18 may call the statewide toll-free telephone number  
2 established under subsection (a) to report alleged incidents of  
3 bullying or hazing. The Department shall also post on its  
4 website, in a relevant and conspicuous place, information on  
5 how a child can report an alleged incident of bullying or  
6 hazing to the statewide toll-free telephone number.

7 (Source: P.A. 97-189, eff. 7-22-11; 97-1150, eff. 1-25-13.)