103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB3449

Introduced 2/17/2023, by Rep. Matt Hanson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

405 ILCS 49/15

Amends the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003. In a provision requiring the Illinois State Board of Education to develop and implement a plan to incorporate social and emotional development standards for the purpose of enhancing and measuring children's school readiness and ability to achieve academic success, provides that the plan shall be reviewed and revised periodically by the Board of Education at least once every 3 years. Requires the plan to include the teaching of grade-appropriate mental health topics, including, but not limited to, types of mental illness, how to find help for mental illness for peers and yourself, suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, coping strategies, appropriate language to use surrounding mental health, and how to incorporate technology in a mental health crisis. In a provision requiring every Illinois school district to develop a policy for incorporating social and emotional development into the district's educational program, provides that the policy shall be reviewed and revised periodically by the school district to incorporate revised provisions of the Board of Education's social and emotional development standards.

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HB3449

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AN ACT concerning mental health.

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

4 Section 5. The Children's Mental Health Act of 2003 is 5 amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (405 ILCS 49/15)

7 Sec. 15. Mental health and schools.

8 (a) The Illinois State Board of Education shall develop 9 and implement a plan to incorporate social and emotional 10 development standards as part of the Illinois Learning 11 Standards for the purpose of enhancing and measuring 12 children's school readiness and ability to achieve academic 13 success. The plan shall be submitted to the Governor, the 14 General Assembly, and the Partnership by December 31, 2004.

(a-5) The plan provided for in subsection (a) shall be 15 16 reviewed and revised periodically by the Illinois State Board 17 of Education at least once every 3 years. Revisions to the plan shall include the teaching of grade-appropriate mental health 18 19 topics, including, but not limited to, types of mental 20 illness, how to find help for mental illness for peers and 21 yourself, suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, 22 coping strategies, appropriate language to use surrounding mental health, and how to incorporate technology in a mental 23

HB3449

1 <u>health crisis.</u>

2 (b) Every Illinois school district shall develop a policy for incorporating social and emotional development into the 3 district's educational program. The policy shall address 4 5 teaching and assessing social and emotional skills and protocols for responding to children with social, emotional, 6 7 or mental health problems, or a combination of such problems, that impact learning ability. School social workers may 8 9 implement a continuum of social and emotional education 10 programs and services in accordance with students' needs. Each 11 district must submit this policy to the Illinois State Board 12 of Education by August 31, 2004. The policy shall be reviewed 13 and revised periodically by the school district to incorporate revised provisions of the Illinois State Board of Education's 14 15 social and emotional development standards. (Source: P.A. 98-338, eff. 8-13-13.) 16