

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 22-75 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/22-75 new)

7 Sec. 22-75. The Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force.

8 (a) There is hereby created the Eradicate Domestic Violence
9 Task Force. The Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force shall
10 develop a statewide effective and feasible prevention course
11 for high school students designed to prevent interpersonal,
12 adolescent violence based on the Step Back Program for boys and
13 girls. The Clerk of the Circuit Court in the First Judicial
14 District shall provide administrative staff and support to the
15 task force.

16 (b) The Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force shall do the
17 following:

18 (1) Conduct meetings to evaluate the effectiveness and
19 feasibility of statewide implementation of the curricula
20 of the Step Back Program at Oak Park and River Forest High
21 School, located in Cook County, Illinois, for the
22 prevention of domestic violence.

23 (2) Invite the testimony of and confer with experts on

1 relevant topics as needed.

2 (3) Propose content for integration into school
3 curricula aimed at preventing domestic violence.

4 (4) Propose a method of training facilitators on the
5 school curricula aimed at preventing domestic violence.

6 (5) Propose partnerships with anti-violence agencies
7 to assist with the facilitator roles and the nature of the
8 partnerships.

9 (6) Evaluate the approximate cost per school or school
10 district to implement and maintain school curricula aimed
11 at preventing domestic violence.

12 (7) Propose a funding source or sources to support
13 school curricula aimed at preventing domestic violence and
14 agencies that provide training to the facilitators, such as
15 a fee to be charged in domestic violence, sexual assault,
16 and related cases to be collected by the clerk of the court
17 for deposit into a special fund in the State treasury and
18 to be used to fund a proposed eradicate domestic violence
19 program in the schools of this State.

20 (8) Propose an evaluation structure to ensure that the
21 school curricula aimed at preventing domestic violence is
22 effectively taught by trained facilitators.

23 (9) Propose a method of evaluation for the purpose of
24 modifying the content of the curriculum over time,
25 including whether studies of the program should be
26 conducted by the University of Illinois' Interpersonal

1 Violence Prevention Information Center.

2 (10) Recommend legislation developed by the task
3 force, such as amending Sections 27-5 through 27-13.3 and
4 27-23.4 of this Code, and legislation to create a fee to be
5 charged in domestic violence, sexual assault, and related
6 cases to be collected by the clerk of court for deposit
7 into a special fund in the State treasury and to be used to
8 fund a proposed eradicate domestic violence program in the
9 schools of this State.

10 (11) Produce a report of the task force's findings on
11 best practices and policies, which shall include a plan
12 with a phased and prioritized implementation timetable for
13 implementation of school curricula aimed at preventing
14 domestic violence in schools. The task force shall submit a
15 report to the General Assembly on or before April 1, 2013
16 on its findings, recommendations, and implementation plan.
17 Any task force reports must be published on the State Board
18 of Education's Internet website on the date the report is
19 delivered to the General Assembly.

20 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
21 House of Representatives shall each appoint one co-chairperson
22 of the Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force. The Minority
23 Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House of
24 Representatives shall each appoint one member to the task
25 force. In addition, the task force shall be comprised of the
26 following members appointed by the State Board of Education and

1 shall be representative of the geographic, racial, and ethnic
2 diversity of this State:

3 (1) Four representatives involved with a program for
4 high school students at a high school that is located in a
5 municipality with a population of 2,000,000 or more and the
6 program is a daily, 6-week to 9-week, 45-session,
7 gender-specific, primary prevention course designed to
8 raise awareness of topics such as dating and domestic
9 violence, any systematic conduct that causes measurable
10 physical harm or emotional distress, sexual assault,
11 digital abuse, self-defense, and suicide.

12 (2) A representative of an interpersonal violence
13 prevention program within a State university.

14 (3) A representative of a statewide nonprofit,
15 nongovernmental, domestic violence organization.

16 (4) A representative of a different nonprofit,
17 nongovernmental domestic violence organization that is
18 located in a municipality with a population of 2,000,000 or
19 more.

20 (5) A representative of a statewide nonprofit,
21 nongovernmental, sexual assault organization.

22 (6) A representative of a different nonprofit,
23 nongovernmental, sexual assault organization based in a
24 county with a population of 3,000,000 or more.

25 (7) The State Superintendent of Education or his or her
26 designee.

1 (8) The Chief Executive Officer of City of Chicago
2 School District 299 or his or her designee or the President
3 of the Chicago Board of Education or his or her designee.

4 (9) A representative of the Department of Human
5 Services.

6 (10) A representative of a statewide, nonprofit
7 professional organization representing law enforcement
8 executives.

9 (11) A representative of the Chicago Police
10 Department, Youth Services Division.

11 (12) The Clerk of the Circuit Court in the First
12 Judicial District or his or her designee.

13 (13) A representative of a statewide professional
14 teachers organization.

15 (14) A representative of a different statewide
16 professional teachers organization.

17 (15) A representative of a professional teachers
18 organization in a city having a population exceeding
19 500,000.

20 (16) A representative of an organization representing
21 principals.

22 (17) A representative of an organization representing
23 school administrators.

24 (18) A representative of an organization representing
25 school boards.

26 (19) A representative of an organization representing

1 school business officials.

2 (20) A representative of an organization representing
3 large unit school districts.

4 (d) The following underlying purposes should be liberally
5 construed by the task force convened under this Section:

6 (1) Recognize that, according to the Centers for
7 Disease Control and Prevention, National Intimate Partner
8 and Sexual Violence Survey, December 2010 Summary Report,
9 on average 24 people per minute are victims of rape,
10 physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in
11 the United States, equaling more than 12 million women and
12 men.

13 (2) Recognize that abused children and children
14 exposed to domestic violence in their homes may have short
15 and long-term physical, emotional, and learning problems,
16 including increased aggression, decreased responsiveness
17 to adults, failure to thrive, posttraumatic stress
18 disorder, depression, anxiety, hypervigilance and
19 hyperactivity, eating and sleeping problems, and
20 developmental delays, according to the Journal of
21 Interpersonal Violence and the Futures Without Violence
22 organization.

23 (3) Recognize that the Illinois Violence Prevention
24 Authority has found that children exposed to violence in
25 the media may become numb to the horror of violence, may
26 gradually accept violence as a way to solve problems, may

1 imitate the violence they see, and may identify with
2 certain characters, victims, or victimizers.

3 (4) Recognize that crimes and the incarceration of
4 youth are often associated with a history of child abuse
5 and exposure to domestic violence, according to Futures
6 Without Violence.

7 (5) Recognize that the cost of prosecuting crime in
8 this State is unnecessarily high due to a lack of
9 prevention programs designed to eradicate domestic
10 violence.

11 (6) Recognize that sexual violence, stalking, and
12 intimate partner violence are serious and widespread
13 public health problems for children and adults in this
14 State.

15 (7) Recognize that intervention programs aimed at
16 preventing domestic violence may yield better results than
17 programs aimed at treating the victims of domestic
18 violence, because treatment programs may reduce the
19 likelihood that a particular woman will be re-victimized,
20 but might not otherwise reduce the overall amount of
21 domestic violence.

22 (8) Recognize that uniform, effective, feasible, and
23 widespread prevention of sexual violence and intimate
24 partner violence is a high priority in this State.

25 (9) Recognize that the Step Back Program at Oak Park
26 and River Forest High School in Cook County, Illinois, is a

1 daily, 6 to 9 week, 45-session, gender-specific, primary
2 prevention course for high school students designed to
3 raise awareness of topics, including dating and domestic
4 violence, bullying and harassment, sexual assault, digital
5 abuse, self-defense, and suicide. The Step Back Program is
6 co-facilitated by the high school and a nonprofit,
7 nongovernmental domestic violence prevention specialist
8 and service provider.

9 (10) Develop a statewide effective prevention course
10 for high school students based on the Step Back Program for
11 boys and girls designed to prevent interpersonal,
12 adolescent violence.

13 (e) Members of the Eradicate Domestic Violence Task Force
14 shall receive no compensation for their participation, but may
15 be reimbursed by the State Board of Education for expenses in
16 connection with their participation, including travel, if
17 funds are available.

18 (f) Nothing in this Section or in the prevention course is
19 intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression
20 or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views
21 protected under the First Amendment to the United States
22 Constitution or under Section 3 or 4 of Article 1 of the
23 Illinois Constitution.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law.