

1 AN ACT with regard to 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 27-23.6 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-23.6 new)

7 Sec. 27-23.6. Anti-bias education.

8 (a) The General Assembly finds that there is a
9 significant increase in violence in the schools and that much
10 of that violence is the result of intergroup tensions. The
11 General Assembly further finds that anti-bias education and
12 intergroup conflict resolution are effective methods for
13 preventing violence and lessening tensions in the schools.

14 (b) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, public
15 elementary and secondary schools may incorporate activities
16 to address intergroup conflict, with the objectives of
17 improving intergroup relations on and beyond the school
18 campus, defusing intergroup tensions, and promoting peaceful
19 resolution of conflict. Such activities may include, but not
20 be limited to, instruction and teacher training programs.

21 (c) A school board shall make information available to
22 the public that describes the manner in which the board has
23 implemented the authority granted to it in this Section. The
24 means for disseminating this information (i) shall include
25 posting the information on the school district's Internet web
26 site, if any, and making the information available, upon
27 request, in district offices, and (ii) may include without
28 limitation incorporating the information in a student
29 handbook and including the information in a district
30 newsletter.

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.