

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 02/01/2012

The Committee on Education Pre-K - 12 (Wise) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 37 - 70 and insert:

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(1) It is the intent of the Legislature to promote a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a serious threat to school safety, and to encourage schools to use alternatives to expulsion, or referral to law enforcement agencies by addressing disruptive behavior through restitution, civil citation, teen

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court, neighborhood restorative justice, school offense protocols, or similar programs. The Legislature finds that zerotolerance policies are not intended to be rigorously applied to petty acts of misconduct and misdemeanors, including, but not limited to, minor fights or disturbances. The Legislature finds that zero-tolerance policies must apply equally to all students regardless of their economic status, race, or disability.

- (2) Each district school board shall adopt a policy of zero tolerance that:
- (a) Defines criteria for reporting to a law enforcement agency any act that occurs whenever or wherever students are within the jurisdiction of the district school board that poses a serious threat to school safety. Acts that do not pose a serious threat to school safety shall be handled within the school's disciplinary system.
- (b) Defines acts that pose a serious threat to school safety.
 - (c) Defines petty acts of misconduct.
- (d) Provides that school officials may not request a law enforcement agency to respond to petty acts of misconduct. Such incidents shall be handled within the school system's discipline system.
- (e) Provides, within existing inservice training modules, a comprehensive training program for school administrators and teachers regarding the potential negative consequences and future effects of an arrest of a juvenile and of the existing in-school alternatives to discipline a student for committing petty acts of misconduct without involving a law enforcement agency.

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(f) Provides that schools disciplinary systems, may document and include corrective training, interventions or teaching of alternative behaviors specific to the offense when the student is required to miss scheduled classroom instruction time due to the offense and its disciplinary action.

(g) (d) Minimizes the victimization of students, staff, or volunteers, including taking all steps necessary to protect the victim of any violent crime from any further victimization.

(h) (e) Establishes a procedure that provides each student with the opportunity for a review of the disciplinary action imposed pursuant to s. 1006.07.

======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 16 and insert:

> disciplinary system; requiring each district school board to implement a training program for school administrators and teachers regarding the negative consequences and future effects of an arrest of a juvenile and of the existing in-school alternatives to discipline a student for committing petty acts of misconduct without involving a law enforcement agency; requiring that each district