

HOUSE BILL No. 2405

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

3-21

1 AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to bullying policies and
2 procedures; creating the legislative task force on bullying prevention in
3 public schools.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the legislative task force on
7 bullying prevention in public schools. The task force shall advise and
8 make recommendations to the governor, the legislature and the state board
9 of education regarding bullying prevention on school premises, in a school
10 vehicle, at school-sponsored activities or events or with the use of school
11 property. The task force shall prepare and submit a report to the governor,
12 the legislature and the state board of education by January 30, 2020, and
13 each January 30 thereafter.

14 (b) The recommendations and resource materials shall:

- 15 (1) Research and recommend best practices for bullying prevention;
- 16 (2) research and recommend best practices for training, education and
17 professional development of school staff members in bullying prevention;
- 18 (3) research and report on bullying prevention policies and practices
19 in Kansas school districts;
- 20 (4) research and report on bullying prevention policies and practices
21 in other states;
- 22 (5) research and report on policies and practices recommended by the
23 United States department of education and the United States department of
24 health and human services;
- 25 (6) identify and recommend a range of consequences and remedial
26 actions for a person who commits an act of bullying;
- 27 (7) identify and recommend a range of appropriate remedial actions
28 for victims of bullying;
- 29 (8) recommend procedures for reporting and investigating acts of
30 bullying;
- 31 (9) recommend methods for distribution and publication of bullying
32 prevention policies, plans and procedures to parents and the general
33 public; and
- 34 (10) develop and recommend criteria for data collection on acts of
35 bullying within individual attendance centers, school districts and
36 statewide.

1 (c) The task force shall consist of 25 voting members as follows:

- 2 (1) One member of the senate shall be appointed jointly by the
3 chairperson and the ranking minority member of the senate committee on
4 education;
- 5 (2) one member of the house of representatives shall be appointed
6 jointly by the chairperson and the ranking minority member of the house
7 committee on education, to serve as the chairperson of the task force;
- 8 (3) one member appointed by and from the state board of education;
- 9 (4) one member shall be a professor employed by a state educational
10 institution with specialized expertise in bullying prevention appointed by
11 the president of the state board of regents;
- 12 (5) one member shall be a principal of a public school appointed by
13 the united school administrators of Kansas;
- 14 (6) one member shall be a superintendent of a public school district
15 appointed by the united school administrators of Kansas;
- 16 (7) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas school counselor
17 association;
- 18 (8) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas association of
19 special education administrators;
- 20 (9) two members shall be appointed by the Kansas association of
21 school boards;
- 22 (10) three members shall be classroom teachers appointed by the
23 Kansas national education association, one of whom shall be an
24 elementary teacher, one of whom shall be a middle school teacher, and one
25 of whom shall be a high school teacher;
- 26 (11) four members shall be students appointed as follows:
- 27 (A) two members shall be enrolled in grades nine through 12 and
28 appointed jointly by the chairperson and the ranking minority member of
29 the senate committee on education; and
- 30 (B) two members shall be enrolled in grades six through eight and
31 appointed jointly by the chairperson and the ranking minority member of
32 the house committee on education;
- 33 (12) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas state high school
34 activities association;
- 35 (13) one member shall be appointed by schools for quality education;
- 36 (14) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas children's service
37 league;
- 38 (15) one member shall be appointed by equality Kansas;
- 39 (16) one member shall be appointed by families together, inc.;
- 40 (17) one member shall be appointed by GLSEN Kansas;
- 41 (18) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas sheriff's
42 association;
- 43 (19) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas mental health

1 coalition; and

2 (20) the following members, who shall be non-voting members of the
3 task force:

4 (A) One member shall be a licensed attorney from the state
5 department of education appointed by the commissioner of education; and

6 (B) one member shall be a licensed attorney who is familiar with
7 harassment and bullying prevention issues appointed jointly by the
8 chairperson of the senate committee on education and the chairperson of
9 the house committee on education.

10 (d) The chairperson shall call an organizational meeting of the task
11 force on or before July 15, 2019. At such organizational meeting, the
12 members shall elect a vice-chairperson from the membership of the task
13 force. The task force also shall consider dates for future meetings, the
14 agenda for such meetings and the need for electing a facilitator to assist in
15 discussions among the members of the task force. The task force shall
16 meet no more than six times in 2019, and not more than once a year in
17 2020, 2021 and 2022, and may hold meetings by telephone or video
18 conference, if necessary.

19 (e) Subject to subsection (d), the task force may meet at any time and
20 at any place within the state on the call of the chairperson. A quorum of the
21 task force shall be 13 voting members. All actions of the task force shall be
22 by motion adopted by a majority of those voting members present when
23 there is a quorum.

24 (f) If approved by the legislative coordinating council, members of
25 the task force attending meetings authorized by the task force shall be paid
26 amounts for expenses, mileage and subsistence as provided in K.S.A. 75-
27 3223(e), and amendments thereto.

28 (g) The staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative
29 research department and the division of legislative administrative services
30 shall provide assistance as may be requested by the legislative task force
31 on bullying prevention.

32 (h) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2023.

33 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
34 publication in the statute book.