

As Introduced

**130th General Assembly
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S. B. No. 167

Senator Tavares

Cosponsors: Senators Schiavoni, Brown, Sawyer

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A B I L L

To amend section 3313.534 of the Revised Code with
respect to school district policies for violent,
disruptive, or inappropriate behavior.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3313.534 of the Revised Code be
amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3313.534. ~~No later than July 1, 1998, the (A) The board~~
of education of each city, exempted village, and local school
district shall ~~adopt a~~ eliminate any policy of zero tolerance for
violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior, including
excessive truancy, ~~and establish strategies to address such~~
~~behavior that range from prevention to intervention~~ adopted under
this section as it existed prior to the effective date of this
amendment. Thereafter, no board shall adopt or readopt any policy
of zero tolerance for such behavior. Each board shall instead
adopt a policy that allows for many factors to be considered prior
to the suspension or expulsion of a student. The policy shall
establish alternative strategies, including prevention,
intervention, restorative justice, peer mediation, and counseling,
to address both of the following:

<u>(1) Discipline for student behavioral problems;</u>	20
<u>(2) Harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as defined by</u>	21
<u>section 3313.666 of the Revised Code.</u>	22
<u>(B) No later than July 1, 1999, each of the big eight school</u>	23
<u>districts, as defined in section 3314.02 of the Revised Code,</u>	24
<u>shall establish under section 3313.533 of the Revised Code at</u>	25
<u>least one alternative school to meet the educational needs of</u>	26
<u>students with severe discipline problems, including, but not</u>	27
<u>limited to, excessive truancy, excessive disruption in the</u>	28
<u>classroom, and multiple suspensions or expulsions. Any other</u>	29
<u>school district that attains after that date a significantly</u>	30
<u>substandard graduation rate, as defined by the department of</u>	31
<u>education, shall also establish such an alternative school under</u>	32
<u>that section.</u>	33
 Section 2. That existing section 3313.534 of the Revised Code	34
is hereby repealed.	35
 Section 3. Zero tolerance policies often punish a student	36
with a behavioral problem twice by both expelling that student and	37
preventing that student's education during the expulsion.	38
Therefore, in passing this act, it is the intent of the General	39
Assembly to provide support for students with behavioral problems	40
and to ensure that such students remain in school.	41