



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

William Schwartz

### H.B. 470

130th General Assembly  
(As Reported by H. Education)

**Reps.** Barnes, Antonio, Patmon, Reece, Strahorn, Brenner, Slaby, Smith, Fedor, Driehaus, Patterson

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the month of September as "School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month" to "highlight the policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying adopted by schools in the state and the required notice of those policies."
- States that the bill is to be known as the "School Bullying Prevention and Awareness Act."
- Declares an emergency.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month

The bill designates the month of September as "School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month" to "highlight the policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying adopted by schools in the state and the required notice of those policies," which are sent annually to parents and guardians.<sup>1</sup> The bill states that it is to be known as the "School Bullying Prevention and Awareness Act."<sup>2</sup>

Continuing law requires each school district, community school, and STEM school to adopt a policy prohibiting student harassment, intimidation, or bullying on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Each policy must define the term "harassment, intimidation, or bullying" that includes the definition prescribed in statute

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 5.2288.

<sup>2</sup> Section 2.

and must include procedures for reporting, responding to, and documenting prohibited incidents, procedures for notifying parents of students involved in a prohibited incident, strategies for protecting victims from retaliation or additional harassment after a report, and disciplinary procedures for perpetrators. The policy must be included in student handbooks and in publications that set forth the standards of conduct for schools and students. Employee training materials must also include information on the policy.<sup>3</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-11-14
Reported, H. Education	05-28-14

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3313.666, not in the bill. The requirements of R.C. 3313.666 are applied to community schools and STEM schools by references in R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(d) and 3326.11, neither in the bill.

