

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 559

Short Title: Teen Dating Violence Prevention Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Horn (Primary Sponsor).

*For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.*

Referred to: Education, if favorable, Judiciary Subcommittee C.

April 4, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE EDUCATION OF NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL  
3 STUDENTS ABOUT TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(4a) reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 115C-81. Basic Education Program.

7 ...

8 (e1) School Health Education Program to Be Developed and Administered.

9 ...

10 (4a) Each local school administrative unit shall also include as part of the  
11 instruction required under subdivision (4) of this subsection the following  
12 instruction:

13 a. Teaches about sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include  
14 how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the  
15 effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration  
16 (FDA)-approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting sexually  
17 transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing  
18 and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall  
19 include the rates of infection among pre-teen and teens of each  
20 known sexually transmitted disease and the effects of contracting  
21 each sexually transmitted disease. In particular, the instruction shall  
22 include information about the effects of contracting the Human  
23 Papilloma Virus, including sterility and cervical cancer.

24 b. Teaches about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved  
25 contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy.

26 c. Teaches awareness of dating violence and abuse, sexual assault,  
27 sexual abuse, and risk reduction. The instruction and materials shall:

28 1. Focus on healthy ~~relationships~~relationships, including the  
29 characteristics of healthy relationships.

30 2. Teach students what constitutes sexual assault and sexual  
31 abuse, the causes of those behaviors, and risk reduction.

32 2a. Teach students the definition of dating violence and abuse,  
33 the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior,  
34 and measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse.



- 3. Inform students about resources and reporting procedures if they experience ~~sexual assault or sexual abuse~~. dating violence or abuse, sexual assault, or sexual abuse.
- 4. Examine common misconceptions and stereotypes about dating violence and abuse, sexual assault and sexual abuse.

Materials used in this instruction shall be age appropriate for use with students. Information conveyed during the instruction shall be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by professionals and credentialed experts in the field of sexual health education. Each local board of education shall adopt a policy and provide a mechanism to allow a parent or a guardian to withdraw his or her child from instruction required under this subdivision.

...."

**SECTION 2.** Subchapter VI of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"Article 29D.

"Student Dating Violence and Abuse Prevention.

**"§ 115C-407.25. Policy against dating violence and abuse.**

Not later than July 1, 2014, each local board of education shall adopt and implement a dating violence and abuse policy. The policy shall do the following:

- (1) Prohibit dating violence and abuse by any student on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.
- (2) Provide procedures for responding to such incidents of dating violence or abuse, including accommodations for students experiencing dating violence or abuse.
- (3) Define dating violence and abuse and provide for a teen dating violence and abuse component in the reproductive health and safety education program set forth in G.S. 115C-81(e1)(4a)(c).
- (4) Be implemented in a manner that is integrated with each school district's discipline policies."

**SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this act is effective when it becomes law. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.