



Substitute House Bill No. 6642

Public Act No. 23-66

AN ACT CONCERNING A TITLE IX COMPLIANCE TOOLKIT FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall convene and lead a working group to identify or develop a Title IX compliance toolkit for use by local and regional boards of education, students and parents and guardians of students. For purposes of this section and sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of this act, "Title IX" means the provisions of Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1972, 20 USC 1681 et seq., as amended from time to time.

(b) The Title IX compliance toolkit shall include:

(1) Training for school administrators, Title IX coordinators, school personnel, students and parents and guardians of students that includes (A) information regarding the prevention, identification and response to adult sexual misconduct in schools, as described in the United States Department of Education's "Training Guide for Administrators and Educators on Addressing Adult Sexual Misconduct in the School Setting", and (B) research and data regarding the prevalence of child sexual abuse, adult sexual misconduct and the unique risk to sexual

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abuse for students with disabilities or who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or another sexual orientation or gender identity;

(2) A model antidiscrimination and abuse prevention policy and procedures that include but are not limited to, policies addressing the needs of students with disabilities or who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or another sexual orientation or gender identity;

(3) A summary of applicable state and federal statutory and regulatory requirements and how such requirements affect the rights of students, including students with disabilities or who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or another sexual orientation or gender identity, to be free from discrimination, harassment and abuse;

(4) Provisions relating to the process for reporting an incident of adult sexual misconduct, including documents accessible to parents and guardians of students, students, school personnel and administrators;

(5) Requirements for investigating reports of adult sexual misconduct, including information regarding the need to offer safety planning and services to the complainant or victim;

(6) An explanation of the Title IX complaint procedures, including, but not limited to, the various methods accessible to parents and guardians of students, students, school personnel and administrators of submitting complaints;

(7) Information explaining the right of an individual to seek redress from the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights that is accessible to parents and guardians of students, students, school personnel and administrators;

(8) Procedures for publishing and disseminating information to parents and guardians of students, students, school personnel and

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administrators from the Connecticut School Health Survey, administered pursuant to section 10-217h of the general statutes, and school climate assessment instruments, completed pursuant to section 10-222d of the general statutes;

(9) Information relating to personnel and resources at the state and federal level that are available to provide ongoing technical assistance and support to local and regional boards of education with regard to such boards' compliance with Title IX requirements; and

(10) Information relating to resources that are available to provide support to students, educators and parents and guardians regarding prevention, identification and response to child sexual harassment, discrimination and abuse.

(c) The working group shall consist of: (1) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee, (2) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, (3) the Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee, (4) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, (5) the executive director of the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, or the executive director's designee, (6) the Child Advocate, or the Child Advocate's designee, (7) a representative from each of the following organizations, designated by each such organization: (A) The Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence, (B) the Connecticut Children's Alliance, (C) Disability Rights of Connecticut, (D) the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, and (E) the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, and (8) any additional members who have expertise in human resources and Internet technology, designated by the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity.

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(d) Not later than July 1, 2024, the working group shall submit the Title IX compliance toolkit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such toolkit or July 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) Not later than October 1, 2024, the Department of Education shall distribute the Title IX compliance toolkit, identified or developed pursuant to section 1 of this act, to local and regional boards of education and provide technical assistance to such boards in the implementation of such toolkit.

(b) The department shall post the Title IX compliance toolkit on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the school year commencing July 1, 2025, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall implement the Title IX compliance toolkit, identified or developed pursuant to section 1 of this act, in such board's efforts to prevent, identify and respond to reports of child sexual abuse, harassment and discrimination.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2026, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall submit a Title IX compliance report to the Department of Education, in such form and manner as prescribed by the department. Such report shall include (1) the name and contact information of the individual, if any, designated by the board to serve as the Title IX coordinator for the school district, including the dates on which such individual has served as the Title IX coordinator, (2) the training, if any, offered or provided by the board to school personnel regarding the laws and implementation of Title IX, including the content and frequency of such training, (3) the Title IX policy and any

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supplemental misconduct policy, if any, for the school district, including a description of where such policies are available to students, parents and guardians and school personnel, and (4) guidelines or resources, if any, used or provided by the board in the implementation to any student, parent or guardian who makes a complaint concerning a violation of Title IX.

(b) The department shall annually review the Title IX compliance reports submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and develop a report based on its findings of such review. The department shall make such report available on its Internet web site and submit such report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.