



House Bill No. 6997

Public Act No. 19-146

AN ACT REQUIRING THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO STUDENTS, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) Not later than December 1, 2019, the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department, in consultation with the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, shall compile information concerning services and resources available to victims of domestic violence and provide such information to the Department of Education. Such information shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) referrals available to counseling and supportive services, including, but not limited to, the Safe at Home program administered by the Office of the Secretary of the State, shelter services, medical services, domestic abuse hotlines, legal counseling and advocacy, mental health care and financial assistance, and (2) procedures to voluntarily and confidentially identify eligibility for referrals to such counseling and supportive services. The Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department shall annually review such information and inform the Department of Education of any necessary revisions.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the Department of Education

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shall publish the information compiled and provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section on the Internet web site of the department. If informed of any necessary revisions by the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department, the Department of Education shall revise such published information.

(c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2020, and each school year thereafter, the Department of Education shall disseminate the information published pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to each local and regional board of education. Each local and regional board of education shall require the provision of such information to any (1) student or parent or guardian of a student who expresses to a school employee, as defined in section 10-222d of the general statutes, that such student or parent or guardian or a person residing with such student or parent or guardian does not feel safe at home due to domestic violence, and (2) parent or guardian of a student who authorizes the transfer of such student's education records to another school.