

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

**S.F. No. 3641**

(SENATE AUTHORS: DUCKWORTH, Eichorn, Draheim, Lang and Housley)

DATE  
02/15/2024

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Education Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to education; modifying provisions for reasonable force standards in  
1.3 schools; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 121A.582, subdivision 1, as  
1.4 amended.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 121A.582, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws  
1.7 2023, chapter 55, article 12, section 4, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Reasonable force standard.** (a) A teacher or school principal, in  
1.9 exercising the person's lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under  
1.10 the circumstances to correct or restrain a student to prevent imminent bodily harm or death  
1.11 to the student or to another.

1.12 (b) A school employee, school bus driver, or other agent of a district, in exercising the  
1.13 person's lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the  
1.14 circumstances to restrain a student to prevent bodily harm or death to the student or to  
1.15 another.

1.16 (c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) do not authorize conduct prohibited under section 125A.0942.

1.17 (d) Paragraph (b) does not alter any authorization for use of force by law enforcement  
1.18 or peace officers under section 609.06.

1.19 ~~(d)~~ (e) Districts must report data on their use of any reasonable force used on a student  
1.20 with a disability to correct or restrain the student to prevent imminent bodily harm or death  
1.21 to the student or another that is consistent with the definition of physical holding under

2.1 section 125A.0941, paragraph (c), as outlined in section 125A.0942, subdivision 3, paragraph  
2.2 (b).

2.3 ~~(e)~~ (f) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, districts must report annually by July  
2.4 15, in a form and manner determined by the commissioner, data from the prior school year  
2.5 about any reasonable force used on a general education student to correct or restrain the  
2.6 student to prevent imminent bodily harm or death to the student or another that is consistent  
2.7 with the definition of physical holding under section 125A.0941, paragraph (c).

2.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.