



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 723

SENATE BILL NO. 1386

By Tate, Crowe, Haile, Gresham, Jackson, Niceley, Norris, Watson

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1240

By Akbari, Love, Camper, Turner

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) As used in this section, "adverse childhood experiences" or "ACEs" mean stressful or traumatic events experienced by a minor child. ACEs include, but are not limited to, a child witnessing, or being the victim of, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, emotional neglect, domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, parental separation or divorce, and incarceration.

(b) The department of education shall develop an evidence-based training program on ACEs for school leaders and teachers. The training may be delivered through the trainer of trainers model under § 49-1-213, and shall include:

- (1) The effects of ACEs on a child's mental, physical, social, behavioral, emotional, and cognitive development;
- (2) ACEs as a risk factor for the development of substance abuse disorders and other at-risk health behaviors;
- (3) Trauma-informed principles and practices for classrooms; and
- (4) How early identification of children exposed to one (1) or more ACEs may improve educational outcomes.

(c) An LEA may develop its own ACEs training program to make available to the LEA's school personnel.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 2, 2018


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 18th day of April 2018


BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR