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HOUSE BILL 1900

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Senn, Thai, Berry, J. Johnson, Slatter, Goodman, Orwall, Lekanoff, Davis, Macri, and Pollet

Read first time 01/11/22. Referred to Committee on Education.

- AN ACT Relating to improving school districts' responses to complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.642 RCW.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300 7 RCW to read as follows:
- 8 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 9 develop, and periodically update, model student handbook language 10 that includes information about policies and complaint procedures 11 discrimination, including sexual harassment, 12 information about policies and complaint procedures 13 harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as well as the 14 between the policies and complaint procedures. The model student 15 handbook language must be posted publicly on the office of the 16 superintendent of public instruction's website beginning August 1, 17 2022.
 - (2) Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, each school district must include the model student handbook language developed under subsection (1) of this section in any student, parent, employee, and volunteer handbook that it or one of its schools publishes and on the

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- 1 school district's website, and any school's website, if a school or
- 2 the school district maintains a website. If a school district neither
- 3 publishes a handbook nor maintains a website, it must provide the
- 4 model student handbook language developed under subsection (1) of
- 5 this section to each student, parent, employee, and volunteer at
- 6 least annually.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28A.642 8 RCW to read as follows:
- 9 Each school district shall designate one person in the school 10 district as the primary contact regarding school district compliance 11 with this chapter. In addition to any other duties required by law 12 and the school district, the primary contact must:
 - (1) Ensure that complaints of discrimination communicated to the school district are promptly investigated and resolved; and
 - (2) Communicate with the primary contact regarding the school district's policy and procedure prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying under RCW 28A.600.477, and the primary contact regarding the school district's policies and procedures related to transgender students under RCW 28A.642.080.

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