

FINAL BILL REPORT

ESB 5355

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Mandating instruction on sex trafficking prevention and identification for students in grades seven through 12.

Sponsors: Senators Wilson, C., Kuderer, Lovelett, Nguyen, Randall, Valdez and Wellman.

Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education
Senate Committee on Ways & Means
House Committee on Education
House Committee on Appropriations

Background: Educational Materials Regarding Sex Offenses. In 2014, the Legislature directed the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, in consultation with other entities, to update existing educational materials about how to prevent children from being recruited into sex trafficking. Sexual health education should include age-appropriate information about the legal elements of sex offenses where a minor is a victim, and the consequences upon conviction.

Coordinated Program for the Prevention of Sexual Abuse, Child Abuse, and Neglect. Subject to appropriations, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) must be the lead agency and assist the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and school districts to establish a coordinated program for the prevention of sexual abuse of students in grades K-12, child abuse, and neglect.

When developing the program, consideration must be given to training for children that includes:

- the right of every child to live free of abuse;
- how to disclose incidents of abuse and neglect;
- the availability of support resources and how to obtain help;
- child safety training and age-appropriate self-defense techniques; and
- a period of crisis counseling and reporting immediately following the completion of each children's workshop in a school setting which maximizes the child's privacy and

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sense of safety.

Openly Licensed Courseware. Subject to appropriations, OSPI must take the lead in identifying and developing a library of openly licensed courseware that allows others to use, distribute, and create derivative works based upon the digital material, while still allowing the authors or creators to retain the copyright and to receive credit for their efforts.

Summary: Beginning no later than the 2025-26 school year, school districts, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools must offer instruction in sex trafficking awareness and prevention. The instruction may be offered beginning in grade seven, but each student must be offered the instruction at least once before completing grade 12.

The instruction may, at the discretion of the school or school district, be integrated into a relevant course or a course may be repurposed to include this instruction.

Subject to appropriations, on or before June 30, 2024, OSPI must review curricula related to the awareness and prevention of sex trafficking.

To the extent practicable, OSPI must make available in the library of openly licensed courseware, curricular resources related to the awareness and prevention of sex trafficking that include:

- information about the race, gender, and socioeconomic status of sex trafficking victims and perpetrators;
- medically and legally accurate definitions and information about term stigmatization and how it may reduce reporting and increase the difficulty of detecting and prosecuting sex trafficking crimes;
- information about reporting systems and community engagement opportunities, and basic identification training to determine if an individual is at risk of or has been sex trafficked; and
- information to help students recognize the signs and behavior changes in others that may indicate grooming for sex trafficking or other unlawful, coercive relationships.

The child sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention and identification public-private partnership account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources, federal funds, and any appropriations made by the Legislature or other sources must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for curriculum and professional development to support instruction on child sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention and identification. Only the superintendent of public instruction or designee may authorize expenditures from the account.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	48	0	
House	97	0	(House amended)
Senate	48	0	(Senate concurred)

Effective: July 23, 2023