

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DPI 2/19/2007

LRB Number	07-0754/2	Introduction Number	SB-042	Estimate Type	Original
Description Relating to: school policies on bullying					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill directs the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to develop a model school policy on bullying by pupils. The policy must also include procedures for reporting bullying and for investigating such reports. The bill also directs DPI to develop a model education and awareness program on bullying.

The bill directs each school board to adopt a policy prohibiting bullying by pupils. The school board may adopt DPI's model policy. Once each year, the school board must distribute the policy to all pupils enrolled in the school district and to their parents. With certain exceptions, upon the occurrence of a bullying incident, the school board must distribute the policy to all pupils involved in the incident and to their parents.

Finally, this bill adds Wednesday of the fourth week in September, Bullying Awareness Day, to the list of special observance days for schools.

State: There will be costs involved for the DPI to create a model policy on bullying and a model school program, however these costs are indeterminate. Because some of the bullying prevention curriculum is already prepared, some of this cost has already been absorbed by DPI.

Local: School districts will face the costs of establishing and adopting a new policy and a new program, printing the bullying policy and mailing or distributing it to parents by other means. Costs will vary among school districts depending on whether districts create their own policy or adopt DPI's model policy, the volume of printing, and the method of distributing the policy. The local fiscal effect is indeterminate, however it is assumed these costs would be absorbed by school districts.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications