Bill as Introduced

3/30/00 3917s

SB 360 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

2000 SESSION

00-2656
04/09

SENATE BILL ***360***

AN ACT adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.

SPONSORS: Sen. Trombly, Dist 7; Sen. Larsen, Dist 15; Rep. Buckley, Hills 44

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill adopts the Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand

AN ACT adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Chapter; Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 193-E the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 193-F

PUPIL SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

193-F:1 Title. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited as the "Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000."

193-F:2 Purpose and Intent. The general court hereby finds that:

I. All pupils have the inalienable right to attend public schools that are safe, secure, and peaceful. Violence is the number one cause of death for young people and has become a public health problem of epidemic proportion. One of the legislature's highest priorities must be to protect our children from the plague of violence.

II. The fastest growing violent crime is hate crime, and it is incumbent upon us to ensure that all pupils attending public school are protected from potentially violent discrimination. Educators see how violence affects youth every day; they know first hand that youth cannot learn if they are concerned about their safety. This chapter is designed to protect the institution of learning as well as our pupils.

III. Not only do we need to address the issue of school violence but we also must strive to reverse the increase in teen suicide. The number of teens who attempt suicide, as well as the number who actually kill themselves, has risen substantially in recent years. Teen suicides in the United States have doubled in number since 1960 and every year over a quarter of a million adolescents in the United States attempt suicide. Approximately 4,000 of these attempts every year are completed. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for youths 15 through 24 years of age. To combat this problem we must seriously examine these grim statistics and take immediate action to ensure all pupils are offered equal protection from discrimination under New Hampshire law.

193-F:3 Equal Rights and Opportunities. It is the policy of the state of New Hampshire to afford all persons in public schools, regardless of their sex, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, mental or physical disability, or sexual orientation, equal rights and opportunities in the educational institutions of the state. The purpose of this chapter is to prohibit acts which are contrary to this policy and to provide remedies therefor.

193-F:4 Discrimination Prohibited.

I. No person shall be subjected to discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of sex, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, color, mental or physical disability, or sexual orientation in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state pupil financial aid.

II. Each local school board shall adopt policies relative to non-discrimination and harassment which are consistent with the provisions of this chapter and with the rules adopted by the state board of education.

III. Any school employee who has witnessed or knows of an incident involving any of the activities prohibited under this chapter shall report the incident to a person with authority to remedy the incident, who shall in turn report the incident to the superintendent.

IV. The remedy required in paragraph III shall be defined by the local school board. The local school board shall provide opportunities for educators to have sufficient knowledge and skills to be effective in preventing or responding to acts prohibited under this chapter.

V. A school employee who has reported violations under this chapter to the person with authority, or who has intervened under paragraph III, shall be immune from any cause of action which may arise from the failure to remedy the reported incident.

VI. For purposes of this section, "person with authority" means the principal.

VII. Any school employee acting under the provisions of this chapter shall be immune from any cause of action for any act taken pursuant to this chapter.

193-F:5 Religious Organizations; Applicability. This chapter shall not apply to an educational institution which is controlled by a religious organization if the application would not be consistent with the religious tenets of that organization.

193-F:6 Specific Curriculum Not Required. Nothing in this chapter requires the inclusion of any curriculum, textbook, presentation, or other material in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution. The omission of any curriculum, textbook, presentation, or other material in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution is not a violation of this chapter.

2 New Subparagraph; State Board of Education; Rulemaking; Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Rules Added. Amend RSA 21-N:9, II by inserting after subparagraph (bb) the following new subparagraph:

(cc) Procedures for local school boards and persons with authority to respond to, and provide relief and remedy for, reported incidents of pupil discrimination and harassment prohibited by RSA 193-F, which shall include due process procedures at the local school board level.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2001.

Amendments

Rep. Henderson, Rock. 20
April 20, 2000
2000-4198h
04/10

Amendment to SB 360

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 New Chapter; Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 193-E the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 193-F

Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention

193-F:1 Title. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited as the "Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000."

193-F:2 Purpose and Intent. The general court hereby finds that all pupils have the right to attend public schools that are safe, secure, and peaceful. One of the legislature's highest priorities must be to protect our children from violence by dealing with harassment, including "bullying", in our public schools.

193-F:3 Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention.

I. Each local school board shall adopt a pupil safety and violence prevention policy which addresses pupil harassment, also known as "bullying", and which is consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

II. Any school employee, or employee of a company under contract with a school or school district, who has witnessed or has reliable information that a pupil has been subjected to insults, taunts, or challenges, whether verbal or physical in nature, which are likely to intimidate or provoke a violent or disorderly response shall report such incident to the principal, or designee who shall in turn report the incident to the superintendent.

III. The remedy required in paragraph II shall be defined by the local school board. The local school board may provide opportunities for educators to have the knowledge and skills to prevent and respond to acts covered by this chapter.

IV. A school employee, or employee of a company under contract with a school or school district, who has reported violations under this chapter to the principal, or designee or who has intervened under paragraph II, shall be immune from any cause of action which may arise from the failure to remedy the reported incident.

193-F:4 Specific Curriculum Not Required. Nothing in this chapter requires the inclusion of any curriculum, textbook, presentation, or other material in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution. The omission of any curriculum, textbook, presentation, or other material in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution is not a violation of this chapter.

2 New Paragraph; Duties of the State Board of Education; Technical Assistance Advisory Relative to Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Added. Amend RSA 186:11 by inserting after paragraph XXXV the following new paragraph:

XXXVI. PUPIL SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION. Develop and distribute to school districts a technical assistance advisory for the purpose of providing guidance to school districts on the implementation of pupil safety and violence prevention policies as required under RSA 193-F.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2001.

2000-4198h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that each school district adopt, implement, and enforce its own pupil safety and violence prevention policy and provides that the state board of education shall issue a technical assistance advisory to school districts offering guidance on how to proceed.

Committee Minutes

EDUCATION

ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEE

BILL NO. SB360 DATE 4-11-00

adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention
Title
act.

Composition of Subcommittee:

Chairman Henderson

Members Durham

Jean

Distribution: House Clerk

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # SB360 Date 4-11-00

Committee EDUCATION

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con
SEN SYLVIA LARSEN			DIST 15	✓	
Kate Frey	NH Comm on the Status of Women 2660			✓	
Sheila Evans	Hennniker School Board - self			✓	

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 360

BILL TITLE: adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.

DATE: April 11, 2000

LOB ROOM: 207 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:00 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. O'Hearn, Durham, Searles, Dearborn, Henderson, Larrabee, Weber, Hoadley, Flint, McKinley, P. Davis, Algeo, Cox, Ward, Sullivan, Guest, Riley, Veaton, Snyder, C. Jean, A. Pelletier, Estabrook and J. White

Bill Sponsors: Sens. Trombly and Larsen and Rep. Buckley

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

SEN. RICK TROMBLY (Sponsor): I support this bill. This is a pupil safety and violence prevention act. We have students who have been harassed and have become violent. The need is to have a no tolerance level to harassment. The staff would observe poor behavior and report it to the principle. If the school acts but fears civil liability this bill will protect the staff. This is the local school board adopting its' own program.

REP. WARREN HENDERSON: How does this reflect to Columbine?

SEN. TROMBLY: I use this as an example that violence can be in all areas.

REP. HENDERSON: As I read the bill and I am harassed for common basics, how about bullying of all types?

SEN. TROMBLY: The bill would be too broad and wouldn't be supported. There are many groups that are harassed now.

REP. ROBERT MCKINLEY: I wonder how this covers all individuals, rather than the itemized set of circumstances.

SEN. TROMBLY: The expansion of this bill would be a detriment to the passage. Pupils have great psychiatric problems because of harassment.

REP. CLAIR SNYDER: Wouldn't this drive the hostilities out of school and on to the streets?

SEN. TROMBLY: I think not. I think a lot of bullying is due to ignorance.

REP. GORDON FLINT: All local school boards are able to carry out this program.

SEN. TROMBLY: I don't think it is rocket science, they can learn.

SEN. DAVID LARRABEE: It seems to me that there are no actions to correct behavior here. Can we legislate attitudes?

SEN. TROMBLY: This is preventative in nature. The corrective action would be the school boards'.

REP. ARTHUR PELLETIER: The increasing size of schools causes isolation. Is this exacerbating the issue?

SEN. TROMBLY: I don't think it's size. It is the societal lack of discipline; a tearing down of self-esteem.

REP. PHIL WEBER: Can you name a school district that tolerates this behavior?

SEN. TROMBLY: Some constituents report they are told to tolerate the bullying.

REP. WEBER: Is this a lack of carrying out policy?

SEN. TROMBLY: A fear of lawsuits may cause some of this.

REP. WILLIAM RILEY: Is there any prohibition of school liability?

SEN. TROMBLY: Yes.

REP. CLAUDETTE JEAN: Can't the students report harassment?

SEN. TROMBLY: Yes and they can still report it.

REP. SUSAN DURHAM: How about transport from home to school?

SEN. TROMBLY: They can't be everywhere.

REP. JOHN WHITE: On page IV, the local school board will be responsible for the unfunded mandate?

REP. RUSSEL COX: On "unintended consequences" is there sufficient knowledge of the school board to implement the duty imposed on them?

SEN. TROMBLY: It can be removed.

REP. LARRABEE: You can set all the policies in the world, but what are the corrective actions?

SEN. TROMBLY: Local control is the answer. It provides structure, procedure and protection by the school board.

REP. LARRABEE: Why leave out the other schools?

SEN. TROMBLY: It would be state vs. religion.

REP. BRUCE DEARBORN: Safe schools are in progress now. How does this fit with the safe schools program?

SEN. TROMBLY: Students still reflect that suicide rates are high because of harassment and they need this supplement.

MS. PAT BUSSELLE: I support this bill. Reporting requirements are in place for specific criminal activity and perpetrators such as weapons in school. Federal law already covers this, but it pushes the Department of Education state board to have authority to provide relief for the harassment issues.

REP. DURHAM: Do you support this is as a separate item of the safe school zones"?

REP. HENDERSON: This bill singles out certain groups of persons and provides a higher level of recognition.

MS. BUSSELLE: We only pursue the perpetrator on any harassment issues.

REP. HENDERSON: Let's not elevate one type of harassed persons over others and eliminate bullying.

CHAIRMAN JANE O'HEARN: What definitions are in existence for the word "harassment"? Should we not define it before presenting it to the school boards?

MS. BUSSELLE: We can research it.

CHAIRMAN O'HEARN: Don't teachers have to have diversity training? Are there programs out there now to help teachers?

** Rep. Susan Durham took over as Acting Clerk for a few minutes **

MS. BUSSELLE: The department offers workshops in this area.

CHAIRMAN O'HEARN: Isn't this the Guidance Departments' job?

MS. BUSSELLE: They should certainly know about it.

REP. COX: Would school resource officers be considerate of an employee?

MS. BUSSELLE: If a school resource officer is compensated by a city or town, he/she would not be considered an employee.

REP. COX: Should school volunteers be included?

MS. BUSSELLE: The rules could include all people in contact with children.

REP. JOHN ALGER: What has been the department's role in this bill?

MS. BUSSELLE: We were not aware of it until it was introduced. We helped to amend it in the Senate. We received phone calls to the Department about incidents, which would be covered in the bill.

MR. DENNIS MURPHY (NEA-NH): I support this bill. Every school needs to create an environment, which is safe for all students. We need to make the staff sensitive and train them to stop harassment before violence occurs. The NEA offers several programs to help train teachers to deal with harassment.

REP. FLINT: What would be done if this is law, which isn't currently being done?

MR. MURPHY: It provides a focus so that every district has a policy.

CHAIRMAN JANE O'HEARN: Aren't schools being required to do too much? Isn't the home the place to enforce tolerance?

MR. MURPHY: Schools have become a reflection of society when students arrive with this behavior. If the schools don't take action, no one will.

CHAIRMAN O'HEARN: If these are hate crimes, shouldn't they be dealt with by the police?

MR. MURPHY: These policies would be preventative. Purposes and intent clauses do not add anything.

** Rep. Bruce Dearborn resumed duties of Clerk **

MS. CLAIR EBEL (NHCLU): I support the intent of the bill, but I have a concern with page 1, line 26 and page 2, line 1. It should be "gender", not "sex". In the list of classes, add the age issue because Special Ed students can be 21 years old. On page 2, paragraph 3, it is a mandate "shall report and the principle shall report to the superintendent": to suggest they must report on an ill-defined area. School records are confidential. These are the wishes of the students to deal with themselves, not to make it a mandate. On page 3, paragraph 2, it makes it a mandate. On page 2, lines 18 & 19, the protection is a broad blanket because "intentionally malicious act" is eliminated. I will provide the harassment statute. This is not a bill for actions, which do not rise to the level of violence. It should be handled separately. Eliminate the wording that relates to a particular class and to harassment. Eliminate lines 20-22, which exempts religious institutions. I would urge you to cover all children.

REP. RILEY: "Gender" or "sex" is the same. "Age" should be included.

REP. HENDERSON: Harassment should be dealt with separately with a definition paragraph.

REP. ALGER: A teacher was harassed and called an abuser when he wasn't. The children lied. The reputation has been damaged.

MS. ABEL: All issues should be investigated non-publicly until proven.

MR. PAUL KROHNE (NH School Board Association): I support this bill. Remove the intent and purpose of the bill. As introduced, it was overly descriptive. The issues are already covered. Legislation of this nature creates a ripple effect among school boards, sort of using the "bully pulpit". It is not a 28A because all these items are already in law. Limited liability of the school board would be a positive outcome of this legislation.

REP. COX: The increase in liability is because of a standard being made for school boards.

REP. P. JUDITH SULLIVAN: Kids sometimes don't know what they are saying. How are the rights of a child protected?

MR. KROHNE: It has to be a judgement call on the part of the staff member. I can supply a NSBA staff attorney if a subcommittee develops.

REP. RAY BUCKLEY: I support this bill. I feel this is the most important piece of legislation I have sponsored. I look at the thousands of kids in the state that have been harassed. My personal experience in 8th grade was harassment because of my effeminate appearance. They wrote names on my locker, stole my coat, etc. and the teacher said, "why don't you beat them up"? Well, after being beaten up, I went and got a knife. This issue interfered with my education. The administration would not protect me.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Bruce Dearborn, Clerk

And

Rep. Susan Durham, Acting Clerk

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 360

BILL TITLE: **adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.**

DATE: April 20, 2000

LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. P. Judith Sullivan	OLS Document #:	4189h	Failed
Sponsor: Rep. Warren Henderson	OLS Document #:	4198h	Adopted

Motions: (OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)
(ON AMENDMENT # 4189h)

Moved by Rep. P. Judith Sullivan
Seconded by Rep. John Alger
Vote: 4-12 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: (OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)
(ON AMENDMENT #4198h)

Moved by Rep. Warren Henderson
Seconded by Rep. Susan B. Durham
Vote: 11-6 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, (Interim Study) (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. P. Judith Sullivan
Seconded by Rep. John Alger
Vote: 7-10 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, (OTP/A,) ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)
(SB 360 WITH AMENDMENT #4198h)

Moved by Rep. Susan B. Durham
Seconded by Rep. Warren Henderson
Vote: 12-5 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: No

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Jane O'Hearn for

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 360

opened 12:50 pm

BILL TITLE: **adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.**

DATE: 4/20-2000

LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. Sullivan offer OLS Document #: 4189h

Sponsor: Rep. ~~Alger and Henderson~~ OLS Document #: 4198h

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: (OTP), OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Sullivan failed — 4-12 N.

Seconded by Rep. Alger

Vote: 4-12 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: (OTP), OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Henderson

Seconded by Rep. Dunham

Vote: 11-6 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Interim Study - Sullivan and Alger.

vote 7-10 **CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:**

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn, Clerk

Ought to pass as Amended
Henderson Amend — 4198-1t — 12-5

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** _____

PH Date: ____/____/____ **Exec Session Date:** 4/20/2000

Motion: 4/8/14 Sullivan failed **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
O'Hearn, Jane E, Chairman		✓
Durham, Susan B, V Chairman		✓
Searles, Stanley N		
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk		✓
Henderson, Warren C		✓
Larrabee, David E		
Weber, Phil A		
Hoadley, Elizabeth K		
Flint, Gordon B		✓
McKinley, Robert E	✓	
Davis, Perley E		✓
Alger, John R M	✓	
Cox, Russell N	~~✓~~	✓
Ward, Brien L	✓	
Sullivan, P Judith	✓	
Guest, Robert H		✓
Riley, William A		✓
Yeaton, Charles B		
Snyder, Clair A		✓
Jean, Claudette R		✓
Pelletier, Arthur J		
Estabrook, Iris W		
White, John M		✓
	4Y —	12 N —
TOTAL VOTE:		

Printed: 12/30/1999

EDUCATION

Bill #: 41 98H **Title:** _____

PH Date: 4 / 20 / 2000 **Exec Session Date:** ___ / ___ / ___

Motion: Henderson Amend **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
O'Hearn, Jane E, Chairman	✓	
Durham, Susan B, V Chairman	✓	
Searles, Stanley N		
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk	✓	
Henderson, Warren C	✓	
Larrabee, David E		
Weber, Phil A		
Hoadley, Elizabeth K		
Flint, Gordon B	✓	
McKinley, Robert E		✓
Davis, Perley E	✓	
Alger, John R M		✓
Cox, Russell N	✓	
Ward, Brien L	✓	
Sullivan, P Judith		✓
Guest, Robert H		✓
Riley, William A		✓
Yeaton, Charles B		✓
Snyder, Clair A	✓	
Jean, Claudette R	✓	
Pelletier, Arthur J		
Estabrook, Iris W		
White, John M	✓	
	11y —	6N
TOTAL VOTE:		

Printed: 12/30/1999

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

2000 SESSION

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** _____

PH Date: 1/ 1/ **Exec Session Date:** 1/ 1/

Motion: Interim Study failed **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
O'Hearn, Jane E, Chairman		✓
Durham, Susan B, V Chairman		✓
Searles, Stanley N		
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk		✓
Henderson, Warren C		✓
Larrabee, David E		
Weber, Phil A		
Hoadley, Elizabeth K		
Flint, Gordon B		✓
McKinley, Robert E		✓
Davis, Perley E		✓
Alger, John R M	✓	
Cox, Russell N		✓
Ward, Brien L		✓
Sullivan, P Judith	✓	
Guest, Robert H	✓	
Riley, William A	✓	
Yeaton, Charles B	✓	
Snyder, Clair A	✓	
Jean, Claudette R	✓	
Pelletier, Arthur J		
Estabrook, Iris W		
White, John M		✓
	7	10 N

TOTAL VOTE:

Printed: 12/30/1999

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** 419 61+

PH Date: ____/____/____ Exec Session Date: ____/____/____

Motion: Henderson OTP/A Amd / Henderson **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
O'Hearn, Jane E, Chairman	✓	
Durham, Susan B, V Chairman	✓	
Searles, Stanley N		
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk	✓	
Henderson, Warren C	✓	
Larrabee, David E		
Weber, Phil A		
Hoadley, Elizabeth K		
Flint, Gordon B	✓	
McKinley, Robert E	✓	
Davis, Perley E	✓	
Alger, John R M		✓
Cox, Russell N	✓	
Ward, Brien L	✓	
Sullivan, P Judith		✓
Guest, Robert H		✓
Riley, William A		✓
Yeaton, Charles B		✓
Snyder, Clair A	✓	
Jean, Claudette R	✓	
Pelletier, Arthur J		
Estabrook, Iris W		
White, John M	✓	
	12 Y	5 N
TOTAL VOTE:		

Printed: 12/30/1999

Committee Report

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Education**

BILL NUMBER: **SB 360**

TITLE: adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act.

DATE: April 20, 2000 CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☐ OUGHT TO PASS

☒ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☐ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ RE-REFER

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

The committee agreed with the intent of this bill, that New Hampshire children attend a public school that is safe by developing a policy to address harassment and violence. The amendment replaces the bill because the committee felt local school boards should develop a policy that addresses bullying and harassment. The policy would address prevention, with opportunities to encourage awareness, knowledge, and skills of school employees to respond to pupil safety, and with a required report to superintendents of incidents of harassment that could provoke violence.

Vote 12-5.

Rep. Susan B. Durham
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

Education

SB 360, adopting a pupil safety and violence prevention act. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Rep. Susan B. Durham for Education: The committee agreed with the intent of this bill, that New Hampshire children attend a public school that is safe by developing a policy to address harassment and violence. The amendment replaces the bill because the committee felt local school boards should develop a policy that addresses bullying and harassment. The policy would address prevention, with opportunities to encourage awareness, knowledge, and skills of school employees to respond to pupil safety, and with a required report to superintendents of incidents of harassment that could provoke violence. Vote 12-5.