

A BILL

Provide a platform for students to speak out about and put and end to harassment from teachers, along with increased discipline and regulations regarding the prevention of harassment.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Stone of Utah introduced the following bill;

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Provide a platform for students to speak out about and put and end to harassment from teachers, along with increased discipline and regulations regarding the prevention of harassment.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Implement Student Open Dialogue Act (S.O.D.A)".

SECTION 2. An act that increases the disciplinary and preventive actions taken towards teachers who verbally or physically harass students as well as provides a platform for these students to safely speak out about this harassment and put an end to it is needed because-

1) Verbal and physical assault/harassment from teachers due to racial prejudice, unfair animosity, or whatever reason is an huge ongoing problem, especially in the United States.

2) Due to peer pressure, fear, not feeling safe, no organized program for students to speak out, lack of support, and lack of understanding of the scale of this issue, many students who are verbally or

physically assaulted or harassed do not speak out about it.

3) In a case where a student does speak out, due to poor training, little professionalism, lack of teachers, and underplaying the problem, the vast majority of these reports lead to no disciplinary action for the teachers.

4) This act will provide an online interface that makes it easy and safe to report any abuse or harassment from teachers. The student reporting the harassment will meet with the principal and other appropriate authority figures before the teacher to legitimize the claim and then discuss options after, combating the problem presented in point number 2.

5) This act will require that educators must prove their competency in behavioral management regularly to a member of the state that is from a different district. Disciplinary actions will be raised but the extent of this will be dependent on the state or school, not necessarily a standard requirement for the nation. Claims regarding abuse will be treated with the utmost seriousness and professionalism by authorities. This combats the problem presented in point number 3.

6) Select number of staff from each school will be the representatives of this platform, thus leading to a large representation without the need to employ many new people.

7) This national interface will be able to be broken down into state and school categories to make it more organized and easier to run.

8) Funding would come from Utah's surplus of extra money along with the funding already given to the education system, as this platform will be government run.

9) This would be implemented in only high schools to begin with but will be pushed to grow to all schools soon following.

SECTION 3. Termination

Once up and running, this platform, along with the training and disciplinary actions, will become a permanent part of U.S. education-

1) There will be no point in which the goal would be fulfilled in order to no longer need this program

2) Individual states and schools have the right to alter or add on to this program as they see fit unless told otherwise.

3) Individual states and schools do not have the right to ban this program from their school(s).