

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H

1

HOUSE BILL 493

Short Title: Abuse & Neglect Resources. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives White and Horn (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 28, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH
3 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, INCLUDING
4 SEXUAL ABUSE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

7 "(47) Duty regarding abuse and neglect. – Upon consideration and recommendation
8 of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education shall
9 adopt a policy to be implemented by local boards of education to provide
10 students in grades six through 12 with information on child abuse and neglect,
11 including age-appropriate information on sexual abuse. Information shall be
12 provided in the form of (i) a document provided to all students at the beginning
13 of each school year and (ii) a display posted in visible, high-traffic areas
14 throughout each school in the local school administrative unit. The document
15 and display shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- 16 a. Likely warning signs indicating that a child may be a victim of abuse
17 or neglect, including age-appropriate information on sexual abuse.
18 b. The telephone number used for reporting abuse and neglect to the
19 department of social services in the county in which the local school
20 administrative unit is located, in accordance with G.S. 7B-301.
21 c. A statement that information reported pursuant to sub-subdivision
22 (47)b. of this section shall be held in the strictest confidence, to the
23 extent permitted by law, pursuant to G.S. 7B-302(a1).
24 d. Available resources developed pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51,
25 including the anonymous safety tip line application."

26 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

27 "(a1) Abuse and Neglect Policy. – A charter school shall implement the policy addressing
28 student awareness of child abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse, adopted by the State Board
29 of Education under G.S. 115C-12(47)."

30 **SECTION 1.(c)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

31 "(7f) Abuse and neglect policy. – A regional school shall implement the policy
32 addressing student awareness of child abuse and neglect, including sexual
33 abuse, adopted by the State Board of Education under G.S. 115C-12(47)."

34 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
35 the 2019-2020 school year.



* H 4 9 3 - V - 1 *