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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 321
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 321's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Re-referred to House Primary and Secondary Education

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Lipps and Kelly

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Some school districts, community schools, and STEM schools may incur minimal costs to update their health education curricula and in-service training programs to meet the requirements of the bill.

Detailed Analysis

The bill adds two new areas of instruction to general health curriculum requirements that pertain to school districts, community schools, and STEM schools: (1) child sexual abuse prevention in grades K-6 and (2) sexual violence prevention in grades 7-12. The bill also requires schools to incorporate training on child sexual abuse into the in-service training required under current law for teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologists, and administrators.

Current law mandates instruction in personal safety and assault prevention under general health curriculum requirements for students in grades K-6. Current law also mandates instruction in dating violence prevention education under those requirements for students in grades 7-12 and requires that the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) provide on its website links to free curricula addressing dating violence prevention. In addition, current law in-service trainings already must cover child abuse prevention and intervention.

School districts and schools may incur minimal costs to update their health education curriculum and in-service training programs to meet the requirements of the bill. However, many schools may already be teaching sexual abuse prevention as part of health curriculum instruction in personal safety for elementary students and sexual violence prevention as part of instruction in dating violence prevention for middle and high school students. In addition, there are various resources available at no cost to schools to assist them in meeting the bill's requirements. The Center for P-20 Safety and Security, a collaborative effort between the Ohio Department of Higher Education and ODE, links to several sources of curriculum that address

both dating violence and sexual violence prevention on its website. In addition, ODE has developed in-service training curriculum that covers violence against children to help districts and schools meet the current law training requirement. This curriculum focuses on child abuse and human trafficking but also includes some information on sexual abuse. There are other free resources available addressing these topics. For example, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)^{1, 2} and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center³ both provide links to resources and program guides. Resources are also provided through state-level organizations funded through the Department of Justice's State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program.

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¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention," available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/index.html>.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Sexual Violence Prevention Resources," available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/resources.html>.

³ National Sexual Violence Resource Center, "Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: Programs for children," available online at <https://www.nsvrc.org/publications/child-sexual-abuse-prevention-programs-children>.