

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2774

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTON GRAY.

5445H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 170, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to dating violence education in schools.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 170, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 170.268, to read as follows:

**170.268. 1. A school district or charter school that provides instruction in a grade or grades not lower than the seventh nor higher than the twelfth grade may incorporate dating abuse information that is age-appropriate into the school district's or charter school's existing health curriculum for pupils in such grades that includes the following components:**

- (1) The definition of dating abuse;**
- (2) The recognition of dating abuse warning signs; and**
- (3) The characteristics of healthy relationships.**

**A school district or charter school electing to incorporate dating violence education into its curriculum shall seek input from local domestic violence organizations on curriculum to be taught.**

**2. On written request to the principal of the school where a child is enrolled, the parents or guardian of a pupil who is under eighteen years of age shall be permitted to review the dating abuse information instructional materials within a reasonable time after submitting the written request.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           **3. For purposes of this section, "dating abuse" means a pattern of behavior in**  
18 **which one person uses or threatens to use physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to**  
19 **control the person's dating partner. "Dating partner" means any person who is involved**  
20 **in an intimate association with another person that is primarily characterized by the**  
21 **expectation of affectionate involvement that includes casual, serious, and long-term dating**  
22 **partners.**

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