SB 341 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

04/05/2024 0786s

2024 SESSION

24-2832 02/05

SENATE BILL 341

AN ACT relative to mandatory disclosure by school district employees to parents.

SPONSORS: Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen.

Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Gendreau, Dist 1; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Abbas, Dist 22; Rep. Ladd, Graf. 5; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4; Rep. Osborne, Rock. 2; Rep.

Packard, Rock. 16

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill requires all school employees to respond honestly and completely to written requests by parents regarding information relating to their children.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

24-2832 02/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Four

AN ACT

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relative to mandatory disclosure by school district employees to parents.

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

- 1 Short Title. This act shall be known as the Honesty and Transparency in Education Act.
 - 2 New Section; Communications Between Teachers and Parents. Amend RSA 189 by inserting after section 13-c the following new section:
 - 189:13-d Communications Between Teachers and Parents.
 - I. Educators credentialed by the New Hampshire department of education shall have a duty to respond to written inquiries by parents regarding material information relating to their child enrolled in that educator's school. Such response to a written request shall be sent within 10 business days of its receipt and be answered completely and honestly to the extent permitted by state or federal law.
 - II. If, in the good faith determination of the credential holder, such complete and honest response to a request would put the student at imminent risk of physical harm, abuse, or neglect, such credential holder shall file a report with the department of health and human services within 48 hours of such determination in accordance with RSA 169-C:30, and may withhold only the information that creates the risk.
 - III. On or before June 30, 2025, the state board of education shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, amending the code of ethics and the code of conduct for New Hampshire educators relative to this section.
 - IV. Violation of this section shall be considered a violation of the code of conduct for New Hampshire educators and subject to investigation, in accordance with administrative rules, against that credential holder.
- 21 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2025.