

H.675

An act relating to conditions of release prior to trial.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONDING  
TO SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS

On or before July 1, 2019, the Agency of Education shall issue guidance to all public school boards and boards of approved independent schools that sets out restorative justice principles for responding to school discipline problems. Each public school board and each board of an approved independent school shall consider this guidance and whether to adopt a policy on the use of restorative justice principles for responding to school discipline problems. The restorative justice principles contained in the Agency guidance shall be designed to:

(1) decrease the use of exclusionary discipline;

(2) ensure that disciplinary measures are applied fairly and do not target students based on race, ethnicity, gender, family income level, sexual orientation, immigration status, or disability status; and

(3) provide students with the opportunity to make academic progress while suspended or expelled.

Sec. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRINCIPLES;  
GRANT PROGRAM

(a) The Agency of Education shall use funding under 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) to assist public and approved independent schools with the adoption and implementation of restorative justice principles for responding to school discipline problems. The Agency shall determine the eligibility criteria for receiving a grant and determining the grant amount, and shall monitor the use of grant monies.

(b) On or before December 1, 2018, 2019, and 2020, the Secretary of Education shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Education and on Judiciary and the Senate Committees on Education and on Judiciary describing the eligibility criteria for receiving a grant and for determining the grant amount, identifying the grant recipients and the amounts they received in grant monies, and the use of grant monies by the recipients.

(c) The sum of \$250,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund in fiscal year 2018 to be carried forward for fiscal year 2019 under 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) for the Agency to administer the grant program in accordance with this section. The Agency is authorized to make a net-neutral appropriation transfer with education funds appropriated to the Agency in fiscal year 2018 to effectuate this one-time increase in grant funding.

Sec. 3. 13 V.S.A. § 3251 is amended to read:

§ 3251. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

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(9) “Law enforcement officer” means a person certified as a law enforcement officer under the provisions of 20 V.S.A. chapter 151.

Sec. 4. 13 V.S.A. § 3259 is added to read:

§ 3259. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A PERSON IN THE CUSTODY OF  
A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

(a) No law enforcement officer shall engage in a sexual act with a person whom the officer is detaining, arresting, or otherwise holding in custody or who the officer knows is being detained, arrested, or otherwise held in custody by another officer.

(b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned for not more than five years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or both.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to restorative justice principles in school discipline and sexual exploitation of a person in the custody of a law enforcement officer”