

**Colorado House Bill 11-1254:
Concerning Measures to Reduce the Frequency of Bullying in Schools
Summary of the Provisions of the Bill**

1. Article 93 School Bullying Prevention and Education **Grant Program** (July 1, 2012):
 - Created in CDE to fund efforts to reduce the frequency of bullying incidents
 - Intended recipients are schools, facility schools, or a collaborative group of public schools or facility schools
 - Subject to sufficient monies transferred or appropriated
 - Sets up cash fund for gifts grants and donations
 - Outlines aspects of the grant process to be approved by the SBE

2. CDE to create a page on its public **website**
 - Website will make available evidence-based best practices and other resources for educators and other professionals engaged in bullying prevention and education
 - CDE will solicit, review, and place on the website evidence-based best practices and other resources from CSSRC, school districts, charter school institute, and other federal agencies

3. Edits the Safe schools Act, Conduct and Discipline Code (C.R.S 22-32-109.1):
 - Language added for **dress code** (C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (a)(IX))
 - A dress code policy that ENCOURAGES SCHOOL PRIDE AND UNITY, PROMOTES UNIFORMITY OF DRESS, AND defines and prohibits students from wearing apparel that is deemed disruptive....
 - Encourages **schools districts** to ensure that its conduct and discipline policy incorporates (C.R.S 22-32-109.1 (a)(X)(A)):
 - The biennial administration of surveys of students' impressions of the severity of bullying in their schools
 - Character building
 - Designation of a team to advise school administration concerning the severity and frequency of bullying incidents at the school
 - Appropriate disciplinary consequences for students who bully AND for those who take retaliatory action against someone who reports in good faith.
 - Changes the **Definition of Bullying** (C.R.S 22-32-109.1 (a)(X)(B)):
 - "Bullying" means any written or verbal expression, or physical or electronic or gesture, or pattern thereof, that is intended to coerce, intimidate, or cause any physical, mental , or emotional harm to any student.

- Bullying is prohibited against any student for any reason, including but not limited to any such behavior that is directed toward a student on the basis of his or her academic performance; or against whom federal and state laws prohibit discrimination upon any of the bases described in section 22-32-109 (1)(11)(I).
- C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(11)(I) = The schools and districts are subject to all federal and state laws constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, race, creed , color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.
- This definition is not intended to infringe upon any right guaranteed to any person by the first amendment to the United States Constitution or to prevent the expression of any religious, political, or philosophical views.
- Safe School Reporting Requirements addition **(C.R.S 22-32-109.1 (a)(X)(B)(b)(IV))**:
 - Behavior detrimental to the welfare or safety of other students or of school personnel, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INCIDENTS OF BULLYING.
- Charter schools and the Charter School Institute - amends C.R.S. 22-30.5-502 Section 2 and provides additions to sections 5, and 6
 - Shall adopt and implement a policy concerning bullying prevention and education
 - Appropriate disciplinary consequences for students who bully AND for those who take retaliatory action against someone who reports in good faith
 - Same definition of bullying
 - Encouraged to ensure its policy incorporates ... biennial survey, character building, and designation of a team
- Adds to duties of C.R.S. 24-33.5-1803 School safety resource center:
 - Consult with school districts, schools, and charter schools concerning evidence-based best practices for bullying prevention and education
 - Consult with CDE concerning its administration of the grant program
 - Submit evidence-based best practices for bullying prevention and education to CDE