CAYMAN ISLANDS

EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

(Law 48 of 2016)


A BILL FOR A LAW TO AMEND THE EDUCATION LAW, 2016 TO REQUIRE ALL SCHOOLS TO FORMULATE AN ANTI-BULLYING POLICY; AND FOR INCIDENTAL AND CONNECTED PURPOSES
Memorandum of

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill amends the Education Law, 2016 ("the Law") to require that all schools formulate an Anti-Bullying Policy.

Clause 1 of the Bill provides the short title of the legislation.

Clause 2 amends section 2 of the Law to provide for disciplinary penalties to include penalties imposed on a student by a school at which education is provided for the student for contravention by that student of the school’s anti-bullying policy.

Clause 3 inserts a new section 27A into the Law to make it mandatory that every school has a written anti-bullying policy based on national policy and other prescribed requirements that includes the disciplinary penalties to be applied and the procedures for the enforcement of the penalties.

Clause 3 also gives Cabinet the power to make regulations prescribing —

(a) the contents of an anti-bullying policy;
(b) the reporting and notification requirements;
(c) the investigation procedures in relation to bullying;
(d) the form of the disciplinary penalties to be imposed;
(e) the procedures for the enforcement of the disciplinary penalties;
(f) all matters that may be necessary for giving effect to the penalty system; and
(g) the submission of reports on bullying.
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ENACTED by the Legislature of the Cayman Islands.

Short title

1. This Law may be cited as the Education (Amendment) Law, 2019.

Amendment of section 2 of the Education Law 2016 - interpretation

2. The Education Law 2016, in this Law referred to as the “principal Law”, is amended in section 2, in the definition of “disciplinary penalties” by inserting after the words “under section 27” the words “or the school’s Anti-Bullying Policy established under section 27A”.

Insertion of new section - anti-bullying policy

3. (1) The principal Law is amended by inserting after section 27 the following section —

“Anti-Bullying policy

27A.(1) Every school shall have a written Anti-Bullying Policy based on national policy and any other prescribed requirements.
(2) A school shall submit its anti-bullying policy for approval by –
   (a) the Department, in the case of a Government school;
   (b) the Ministry, in the case of all other schools; and
   (c) the Education Council.

(3) The Cabinet may make regulations generally for the effective implementation
of an anti-bullying policy, and in particular, but without prejudice to the
generality of the foregoing, make regulations prescribing -
   (a) the contents of an anti-bullying policy;
   (b) the reporting and notification requirements;
   (c) the investigation procedures in relation to bullying;
   (d) the form of the disciplinary penalties to be imposed;
   (e) the procedures for the enforcement of the disciplinary penalties;
   (f) all matters that may be necessary for giving effect to the penalty system;
      and
   (g) the submission of reports on bullying.”

Passed by the Legislative Assembly the day of , 2019

Speaker

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly