

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2013  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2013  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 514**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bonta**

February 20, 2013

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An act to amend Section 234.5 of the Education Code, relating to school safety.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 514, as amended, Bonta. The Safe Schools for Safe Learning Act of 2013.

Existing law establishes the Safe Place to Learn Act and, among other things, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to post on his or her Internet Web site a list of statewide resources that provide support to youth who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, or bullying, and their families.

This bill, the Safe Schools for Safe Learning Act of 2013, would require the Superintendent to post on the Superintendent's Internet Web site a list of statewide resources for youth who have been affected by gangs, gun violence, and psychological trauma *caused by violence at home and at school*. The bill would express various findings and declarations of the Legislature relating to school safety.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known as the Safe Schools for  
2 Safe Learning Act of 2013.

3 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

4 (a) Child safety should be a priority in our state, and we, as the  
5 state Legislature, should ensure that our children are kept safe from  
6 any form of violence, especially while children are in school.

7 (b) Our children have the talent and capacity for greatness, if  
8 given the opportunity to thrive and grow in a healthy environment.

9 (c) Unfortunately, violence has become a fact of life for many  
10 pupils in the 18th Assembly District *and throughout the state*. For  
11 example, Oakland suffered from 131 homicides in 2012. Many  
12 children suffer complications from growing up in a violent  
13 environment, including depression and post-traumatic stress  
14 disorder, which makes it more difficult to become an engaged and  
15 productive pupil at school.

16 (d) Assembly Member Bonta has asked pupils to submit their  
17 responses to the question, “What would make you feel safer at  
18 school?” The Safe Schools for Safe Learning Act of 2013 will be  
19 based on the winning response to that question.

20 (e) We need to create safe and supportive school environments  
21 where each child is able to thrive. A school is not just a place for  
22 perfunctory instruction. It is also the place where a child learns  
23 about humanity, family, and community, free from violence and  
24 fear.

25 SEC. 3. Section 234.5 of the Education Code is amended to  
26 read:

27 234.5. The Superintendent shall post, and annually update, on  
28 his or her Internet Web site and provide to each school district a  
29 list of statewide resources, including community-based  
30 organizations, that provide support to youth who have been  
31 subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation,  
32 or bullying, and their families. The Superintendent’s Internet Web  
33 site shall also include a list of statewide resources for youth who  
34 have been affected by gangs, gun violence, and psychological  
35 trauma *caused by violence at home and at school*.

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