

State of Nevada

SB 394 – Passed to Law May 2015

AN ACT relating to children; revising provisions relating to guardians ad litem for a child in certain circumstances; requiring the instruction of pupils in personal safety; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Major Points of Section 15

PERSONAL SAFETY OF CHILDREN MEANS: an age appropriate recognition of various hazards and dangers that are particular to children, including, without limitation, the danger associated with unsafe persons, both known and unknown to the child, abuse, becoming lost or separated from a parent/guardian, and an awareness of age-appropriate steps a child may take to avoid, lessen or alleviate those hazards and dangers, including, without limitation, reporting threats of harm to a responsible adult.

- Requires pupils in public schools to be provided with age-appropriate instruction in personal safety.
- Requires the Department of Education (DOE), in consultation with persons and organizations who possess knowledge and expertise in the personal safety of children, to develop age-appropriate curriculum standards for teaching personal safety to children.
- DOE must develop recommendations to assist school districts with developing and implementing various programs relating to the personal safety of children.

Major Points of Section 16

- Board of trustees of each school district and governing body of each charter school, is required to ensure that child personal safety instruction is carried out as part of the health standards developed by the DOE.
- The school district or charter school is required to determine the grade levels to be taught as well as the course content and materials for instruction.
- Instruction must be provided by:
 1. a licensed teacher;
 2. an employee of the school district with special knowledge or training in teaching personal safety to children;
 3. an employee of an agency whose primary purpose is the teaching of personal safety of children; or
 4. a volunteer of such an agency as in item 3 who has undergone a background investigation and has special training in instructing the personal safety of children.
- Parents of children receiving the instruction must be notified and must have an opportunity to view instruction materials.
- Parents may submit a written request to excuse their child from the instruction (opt out form).

TIME FRAME

By July 1, 2016: The DOE will develop age appropriate curriculum standards.

By July 1, 2020: Board of Trustees of each school district and governing board of each charter school must begin providing instruction in the personal safety of children.