



95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

SB1472

Introduced 2/9/2007, by Sen. Dan Kotowski

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act
30 ILCS 105/5.675 new
105 ILCS 5/27-13.3 new

Creates the Internet Safety Education Act to inform and protect students from inappropriate or illegal communications and solicitation and to require school districts to provide education about Internet threats and risks. Creates the Internet Safety Education Alliance under the authority of the Office of the Attorney General. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Internet Safety Education Fund. Amends the School Code to mandate the provision by every public school of instruction and discussion on effective methods by which students may recognize and report inappropriate, illegal, or threatening communications on the Internet on or before the start of the 2008-2009 school year.

LRB095 11008 RAS 31318 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Internet Safety Education Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose; findings.

7 (a) The purpose of this Act is to inform and protect
8 students from inappropriate or illegal communications and
9 solicitation and to require school districts to provide
10 education about Internet threats and risks, including without
11 limitation child predators, fraud, and other dangers.

12 (b) The General Assembly finds and declares all of the
13 following:

14 (1) It is the policy of this State to protect consumers
15 and Illinois residents from deceptive and unsafe
16 communications that result in harassment, exploitation, or
17 physical harm.

18 (2) Children have easy access to the Internet at home,
19 school, and public places.

20 (3) A 2005 report by the PEW Internet and American Life
21 Project concluded that 87% of children between the ages of
22 12 and 17 are online. Moreover, in 2006, 55% of those
23 youths reported use of online social networking websites.

1 (4) A 2006 United States Department of Justice survey
2 by the Crimes Against Children Research Center revealed
3 that approximately 34% of youth ages 10 to 17 used the
4 Internet to chat, email, or instant message with people
5 they had never met personally. In their survey, 13%
6 received a sexual solicitation or approach on the Internet
7 within the preceding year. In addition, 9% reported they
8 had been threatened, harassed, or humiliated online.

9 (5) The Internet is used by sexual predators and other
10 criminals to make initial contact with children and other
11 vulnerable residents in Illinois.

12 (6) Education is an effective method for preventing
13 children from falling prey to online predators and other
14 dangers.

15 Section 10. Internet Safety Education Alliance.

16 (a) There is hereby established under the authority of the
17 Office of the Attorney General the Internet Safety Education
18 Alliance, which shall consist of 9 members, one of whom shall
19 be appointed by the Attorney General and shall represent the
20 Office of the Attorney General; one of whom shall be appointed
21 by the Attorney General and shall represent the High Tech
22 Crimes Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General; one of
23 whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General and represent
24 the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force; 2 of
25 whom shall be appointed by the State Superintendent of

1 Education and represent the State Board of Education; one of
2 whom shall be appointed by the Chief Executive Officer of the
3 Chicago Public Schools and represent the Chicago public school
4 system; one of whom shall be a representative of the Illinois
5 Federation of Teachers appointed by the Governor; one of whom
6 shall be a representative of the Illinois Education Association
7 appointed by the Governor; and one of whom shall be a
8 representative of the Illinois Principals Association
9 appointed by the Governor.

10 (b) The Internet Safety Education Alliance shall have all
11 of the following powers and duties:

12 (1) To examine and certify or to refuse to certify
13 Internet safety curricula, in accordance with the minimum
14 education requirements established under Section 27-13.3
15 of the School Code.

16 (2) To seek consultation from regional and national
17 experts and advocates on emerging Internet safety concerns
18 and educational solutions.

19 (3) To recommend additional topics for Internet safety
20 instruction under Section 27-13.3 of the School Code.

21 (4) To provide training for local law enforcement and
22 educators on effective preparation of youth for existing
23 and emerging Internet threats.

24 (b) Alliance members shall serve 2-year terms and may be
25 reappointed for an unlimited number of terms.

26 (c) All members of the Alliance shall serve without

1 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses
2 incurred in the performance of their duties.

3 (d) The Alliance shall annually select a chairperson and
4 establish rules and procedures for its proceedings not
5 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

6 Section 15. Internet Safety Education Fund. There is hereby
7 created the Internet Safety Education Fund as a special fund in
8 the State treasury into which funds received from private,
9 State, or federal sources specifically for Internet safety
10 education may be deposited and from which funds shall be
11 appropriated to the Internet Safety Education Alliance for use
12 by the Alliance for Internet safety education.

13 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
14 Section 5.675 as follows:

15 (30 ILCS 105/5.675 new)

16 Sec. 5.675. The Internet Safety Education Fund.

17 Section 95. The School Code is amended by adding Section
18 27-13.3 as follows:

19 (105 ILCS 5/27-13.3 new)

20 Sec. 27-13.3. Internet safety education requirement.

21 (a) Every public school shall provide instruction and

1 discussion on effective methods by which students may recognize
2 and report inappropriate, illegal, or threatening
3 communications on the Internet.

4 (b) Each public school shall adopt a curriculum for
5 Internet safety instruction of students in grades kindergarten
6 through 12. The curriculum must be age appropriate and provide
7 for a minimum of 2.5 hours of instruction on each of the
8 following subjects:

9 (1) Safe and responsible navigation and communication
10 on social networking websites, chat rooms, electronic
11 mail, bulletin boards, instant messenger, and other means
12 of communication on the Internet.

13 (2) Recognizing and reporting solicitations by sexual
14 predators online.

15 (3) Dangers of transmitting personal information on
16 the Internet.

17 (4) Recognizing and avoiding unsolicited or deceptive
18 communications received online.

19 (5) Recognizing and reporting cyber-bullying.

20 (c) Curricula devised in accordance with subsection (a) of
21 this Section must be submitted for certification by the
22 Internet Safety Education Alliance. Submitted curricula must
23 receive certification by the Alliance for proper compliance
24 with this Section.

25 (d) Each school district and its schools must comply with
26 the requirements of this Section on or before the start of the

1 2008-2009 school year.