

## Session 121 - (2015-2016)

### H 3462 General Bill, By Crosby

#### **Summary:** Domestic Violence Awareness Education Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT THE "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS EDUCATION ACT" BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 29, TITLE 59 SO AS TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMS, TO PROVIDE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2016, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL DEVELOP A MODEL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS CURRICULUM TO ASSIST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN DELIVERING AGE-APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION ON THE SUBJECT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS, TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT ALSO SHALL DEVELOP A MODEL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY TO ASSIST SCHOOLS IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES MAY REPORT A SUSPECTED INCIDENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT ALSO SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES AND MATERIALS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR SCHOOL FACULTIES AND ADMINISTRATORS; TO PROVIDE THAT BEFORE JULY 1, 2016, ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL IMPLEMENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS CURRICULUMS, POLICIES, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS BASED ON THE CURRICULUM AND POLICIES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT; TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017, AT LEAST ONE CREDIT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ANNUALLY MUST BE COMPLETED BY TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATE STAFF, AND TO PROVIDE THAT AN EDUCATOR WHO HOLDS A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY USE THESE CREDITS TO SATISFY CREDENTIAL RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-370, RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OPTIONAL REPORTING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE CHILDREN'S CODE, SO AS TO MAKE REPORTING MANDATORY, TO EXPAND THE PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT, AND TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL TREAT THE CASE AS A SUSPECTED REPORT OF ABUSE AND SHALL INVESTIGATE THE CASE AS IN OTHER ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE IN ORDER TO DETERMINE IF THE CHILD HAS BEEN ABUSED PHYSICALLY OR PSYCHOLOGICALLY; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 59-1-475 RELATING TO EXISTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016.

**01/29/15 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 8)**

**01/29/15 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 8)**