



# HOUSE BILL 493: Abuse & Neglect Resources.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 16, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. White, Horn	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kara McCraw
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Committee Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *HB 493 would require the State Board of Education to adopt a policy to be implemented all public secondary school to annually provide information to students in grades six -12 on child abuse, neglect, and age-appropriate information on sexual abuse, including contact information for reporting abuse and neglect to the department of social services.*

**BILL ANALYSIS:** HB 493 creates a new requirement for the State Board of Education, upon consultation with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, for public secondary schools to provide information to students in grades 6-12 on child abuse and neglect through a document distributed annually and a display posted in each school. The document must include the following:

1. Likely warning signs of abuse or neglect, including age-appropriate information on sexual abuse.
2. The telephone number for reporting abuse and neglect in the department of social services (DSS) for that county.
3. A statement that information reported to DSS is held in strictest confidence to the extent permitted by law.
4. Available resources for school safety reporting, including the anonymous safety tip line application.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** HB 493 would become effective when it becomes law, and would apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

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