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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Aurand and members of the House Committee on Education

From: Zach Fridell, Revisor of Statutes

Date: Feb. 8, 2018

Subject: House Bill 2578 – An act concerning school districts; relating to publication of bullying policies.

House Bill 2578 (HB 2578) would amend K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 72-6147, a statute that requires districts to adopt and implement an anti-bullying plan regarding in-person and cyberbullying toward students and staff. The bill specifically adds the requirement that the plan be published on the school districts website with a link prominently posted on the home page of the website and that the plan is distributed annually to parents and guardians who have children enrolled in a school in the school district. It also requires a copy of the plan be filed with the department of education.

As background, this bill was originally introduced in 2007 and was updated the following year to include "cyberbullying" and the associated definitions. It was amended again in 2013 to apply the statute to staff as well as students.

If enacted, HB 2578 would go into effect July 1, 2018.