

To: Assembly Committee on Education  
From: Jennifer Kammerud, Legislative Liaison, DPI JK  
Date: January 15, 2014  
Re: 2013 Assembly Bill 616

Assembly Bill 616 (AB 616) will create dangerous situations for students and staff in our schools and criminalizes actions staff may take to safeguard students. Due to a lack of any definitions in the bill it would appear to prohibit a broad range of activity in school districts. How school districts could even begin to anticipate getting parental permission for every student and every conceivable circumstance this bill would prohibit is mindboggling.

What follows is a partial list of just some of the activities that this bill would appear to criminalize if done without parental permission.

- Monitor blood pressure.
- Counsel students related to medical concerns.
- Implement and record required screening programs.
- Administer daily and PRN (as needed) medications and nursing care procedures prescribed by the student's physician.
- An individualized health care plan developed for students with chronic conditions
- An emergency plan to manage potential emergency events in the school setting (diabetes, asthma).
- Provide screening and referral for health conditions.
- Provide for the physical and emotional safety of the school community by monitoring immunizations, ensuring appropriate exclusion for infectious illnesses, and reporting communicable diseases as required by law
- Provide counseling, instruction, and mentoring for those struggling with social, emotional, and behavioral problems in individual or small-group settings or crisis response.
- Make referrals and help coordinate community support services.
- Design and implement academic and behavioral interventions.
- Complete psychosocial assessments to assist in the determination of special education services.
- Determine and implement appropriate therapeutic strategies to effect changes in behavioral-social interactions.
- Provide staff consultation on behavioral-emotional-environmental issues affecting student participation in the learning process
- Complete functional behavior assessments on identified students
- Complete risk assessments on referred students
- Coordinate ongoing systemic activities designed to assist students in establishing personal goals and developing future plans
- Assist students in achieving greater physical fitness through heart rate monitoring, body mass indexing, pedometers, etc. in physical education or health.

Given the significant issues the bill raises for the health and safety of students the department asks you to oppose this bill. A school district should be able to meet the physical and emotional needs of students to provide for the best educational environment possible for all students.