

House Engrossed

pilot program; sexual abuse prevention

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

# HOUSE BILL 2992

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION  
PILOT PROGRAM; APPROPRIATING MONIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Child sexual abuse and assault awareness and  
3 prevention pilot program; contract; provider;  
4 curriculum development; parental exemption;  
5 reporting requirements; delayed repeal;  
6 definitions

7 A. The child sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention  
8 pilot program is established in the department of education. On or before  
9 July 1, 2027, the department shall select six public schools to  
10 participate in the pilot program during the 2027-2028 school year. The  
11 department of education shall consult with the department of child safety  
12 and organizations that are operated by survivors of grooming or human  
13 trafficking in developing the pilot program established by this subsection  
14 and the curriculum developed pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 3 of this  
15 section. The pilot program must include:

16 1. For teachers, at least four hours of in-person, evidence-based  
17 instructional modules that are provided by an organization that is  
18 selected pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 2 of this section and that  
19 may include the following:

20 (a) Training regarding the prevention and identification of, and  
21 responses to, child sexual abuse and assault, including exploitation,  
22 grooming, grooming with the intent to exploit and technology-facilitated  
23 abuse.

24 (b) Resources to further student, teacher and parental awareness  
25 and prevention of child sexual abuse and assault, including exploitation,  
26 grooming, grooming with the intent to exploit and technology-facilitated  
27 abuse.

28 2. For students, at least three hours of age-appropriate,  
29 in-person, evidence-based instruction provided by an organization that is  
30 selected pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 2 of this section and  
31 age-appropriate educational materials that are designed for children in  
32 kindergarten programs or any of grades one through twelve regarding child  
33 sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention, including exploitation,  
34 grooming behaviors and grooming with the intent to exploit. The  
35 evidence-based instruction provided pursuant to this paragraph may include  
36 instruction in:

37 (a) Skills to recognize the following:

38 (i) Child sexual abuse and assault.

39 (ii) Boundary violations and unwanted forms of contact.

40 (iii) Grooming behaviors, including manipulation, trust building,  
41 secrecy, desensitization and isolation.

42 (iv) Exploitation and grooming with the intent to exploit,  
43 including online grooming, sextortion and technology-facilitated  
44 exploitation.

1 (v) Patterns, tactics and warning signs associated with grooming  
2 and exploitation.

3 (b) Strategies that:

4 (i) Promote disclosure.

5 (ii) Reduce self-blame.

6 (iii) Mobilize bystanders.

7 3. A uniform child sexual abuse and assault response policy and  
8 reporting procedure that is based on best practices and that may include:

9 (a) Actions that victims of child sexual abuse and assault may take  
10 to obtain assistance.

11 (b) Intervention and counseling options for victims of child sexual  
12 abuse and assault.

13 (c) Access to educational resources to enable victims of child  
14 sexual abuse and assault to succeed in school.

15 (d) Uniform procedures for reporting instances of child sexual  
16 abuse and assault to school staff members.

17 B. The department of education:

18 1. May contract with a provider to implement the pilot program  
19 established by subsection A of this section if the provider demonstrates  
20 that the provider is able to meet all of the requirements prescribed by  
21 subsection A of this section.

22 2. Shall select one or more organizations to provide the  
23 instructional modules for teachers pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 1  
24 of this section or the instruction for students pursuant to subsection A,  
25 paragraph 2 of this section, or both. The department shall select an  
26 organization pursuant to this paragraph only if the organization meets  
27 both of the following:

28 (a) Is organized and operated for the purpose of preventing child  
29 sexual abuse, promoting grooming awareness or preventing human  
30 trafficking.

31 (b) Ensures that the individuals who will provide instruction to  
32 teachers and students are either qualified survivors of grooming or human  
33 trafficking or advocates who have direct expertise in child sexual abuse,  
34 grooming and human trafficking prevention.

35 3. Beginning on the effective date of this section, shall gather  
36 stakeholder input to develop a curriculum for the pilot program, including  
37 scheduling stakeholder meetings, subject to the following:

38 (a) The department shall solicit input from representatives of each  
39 of the following:

40 (i) The department of child safety.

41 (ii) Organizations that are organized and operated for the purpose  
42 of preventing child sexual abuse, grooming or human trafficking.

43 (iii) Survivors of child sexual abuse, grooming and human  
44 trafficking.

1 (b) The department shall select an organization to develop the  
2 curriculum for the pilot program, coordinate stakeholder input and ensure  
3 that the curriculum is survivor-informed, prevention-focused and  
4 appropriate for students. The department shall select an organization  
5 that both:

6 (i) Is organized and operated for the purpose of preventing child  
7 sexual abuse, grooming or human trafficking.

8 (ii) Demonstrates that the organization has experience providing  
9 survivor-informed prevention education.

10 (c) The curriculum developed pursuant to subdivision (b) of this  
11 paragraph is subject to approval by the state board of education and the  
12 department of education.

13 C. A public school that participates in the pilot program  
14 established by subsection A of this section may not require any student to  
15 participate in the pilot program. Written notification to the public  
16 school from a student's parent or legal guardian is sufficient to exempt  
17 the student from participating in the pilot program or from any portion of  
18 the pilot program that the parent or legal guardian specifies.

19 D. On or before October 1, 2028, each public school that  
20 participates in the pilot program established by subsection A of this  
21 section shall submit a report to the department of education and a copy of  
22 the report to the department of child safety that includes all of the  
23 following:

24 1. The number of students who received evidence-based instruction  
25 through the pilot program, together with the number of hours of  
26 instruction that the organization that is selected pursuant to subsection  
27 B, paragraph 2 of this section provided.

28 2. The number of teachers who completed the evidence-based  
29 instructional modules provided through the pilot program.

30 3. Any testimony or comments from teachers, students or the parents  
31 of students relating to the pilot program.

32 4. Whether the school intends to continue providing instructional  
33 modules to teachers or instruction to students, or both, through an  
34 organization that is selected pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 2 of  
35 this section in subsequent school years.

36 E. For the purposes of this section:

37 1. "Grooming" means a pattern of conduct used to gain a minor's  
38 trust, desensitize the minor to inappropriate conduct and facilitate  
39 exploitation.

40 2. "Exploitation" means the manipulation, abuse or use of a minor  
41 for sexual purposes, sexual conduct, sexual trafficking, sexual extortion  
42 or other sexual abuse.

43 F. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2028.

1           Sec. 2. Appropriation; department of education; child sexual  
2                           abuse and assault awareness and prevention pilot  
3                           program; exemption

4           A. The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated from the state general fund  
5 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the department of education for the child  
6 sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention pilot program  
7 established by this act.

8           B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt  
9 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating  
10 to lapsing of appropriations, until June 30, 2028.