

House Engrossed Senate Bill
school liability; bullying; serious injury

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SENATE BILL 1684

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 15-120.08; RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-120.08, to read:

4 15-120.08. School liability; bullying; serious physical
5 injury; court action; definitions

6 A. A STUDENT OR A STUDENT'S PARENT MAY BRING A CAUSE OF ACTION
7 AGAINST A PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE SCHOOL'S FAILURE TO
8 ADDRESS A THREAT TO THE STUDENT'S SAFETY IF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

9 1. THE STUDENT SUFFERS SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY AS A RESULT OF
10 ANOTHER STUDENT BULLYING THE INJURED STUDENT AT SCHOOL.

11 2. THE SCHOOL OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SCHOOL, INCLUDING AN INDIVIDUAL
12 WHO IS INDIRECTLY EMPLOYED THROUGH A THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTOR, RECEIVES AT
13 LEAST ONE PRIOR REPORT THAT THE OTHER STUDENT COMMITTED AN ACT OF BULLYING
14 AGAINST THE INJURED STUDENT AT SCHOOL.

15 3. THE SCHOOL NEGLIGENTLY FAILED TO ADDRESS THE SUSPECTED ACT OF
16 BULLYING COMMITTED BY THE OTHER STUDENT AND AGAINST THE INJURED STUDENT
17 AFTER RECEIVING A PRIOR REPORT.

18 B. AN ACT OF ALLEGED BULLYING OCCURS AT SCHOOL FOR THE PURPOSES OF
19 SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IF THE ACT EITHER:

20 1. OCCURS WHILE THE INJURED STUDENT AND THE STUDENT WHO COMMITS THE
21 ACT OF ALLEGED BULLYING ARE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS, ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, ON A
22 SCHOOL BUS, AT A SCHOOL BUS STOP, AT A SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENT OR AT A
23 SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITY.

24 2. IS COMMITTED THROUGH THE USE OF ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY OR
25 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION ON A SCHOOL COMPUTER, NETWORK, FORUM OR MAILING
26 LIST.

27 C. THE COURT MAY AWARD REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, EXPENSES AND
28 DAMAGES TO ANY CLAIMANT WHO SUBSTANTIALLY PREVAILS IN AN ACTION BROUGHT
29 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

30 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

31 1. "BULLYING" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING THAT PLACES A STUDENT IN
32 ACTUAL AND REASONABLE FEAR OF HARM TO THE STUDENT'S PERSON OR DAMAGE TO
33 THE STUDENT'S PROPERTY:

34 (a) A PATTERN OF GESTURES OR WRITTEN, ELECTRONIC OR VERBAL
35 COMMUNICATIONS.

36 (b) A PHYSICAL ACT.

37 (c) A THREATENING COMMUNICATION.

38 2. "PRIOR REPORT" INCLUDES:

39 (a) A WRITTEN REPORT THAT ANY INDIVIDUAL MAKES TO AN EMPLOYEE OF
40 THE SCHOOL.

41 (b) A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE'S PERSONAL OBSERVATION OF CONDUCT THAT THE
42 EMPLOYEE REASONABLY BELIEVES CONSTITUTES AN ACT OF BULLYING.

43 3. "SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY" HAS THE SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN
44 SECTION 13-105.