



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007**  
**Committee Statement**  
**LB 205**

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**Hearing Date:** January 30, 2007

**Committee On:** Education

**Introducer(s):** (Howard, 9)

**Title:** Require schools to adopt a bullying policy

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

- X Advanced to General File
  - Advanced to General File with Amendments
  - Indefinitely Postponed
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**Vote Results:**

8	Yes	Senators Adams, Ashford, Avery, Burling, Howard, Johnson, Kopplin, and Raikes
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
0	Absent	

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**Proponents:**

Senator Gwen Howard  
Virgil Horne  
Paul A. Olson  
Susan M. Swearer

Brian Hale  
Dewayne Mays  
Brian L. Halstead  
Shereen Salfity  
Sheryl A. Machacek  
Laurel Marsh  
Tracy Belitz  
Sheritha Smittick  
Alan Potash  
Terry Werner

Cecilia Olivarez Huerta  
Jen Hernandez

Judi gaiashkibos  
Marge Schlitt

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Lincoln Public Schools  
Nebraskans For Peace  
Department of Educational Psychology,  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Nebraska Association of School Boards  
Lincoln Branch NAACP  
Nebraska Department of Education  
Self  
Bully Police USA (Nebraska Chapter)  
ACLU – Nebraska  
Self  
Self  
Anti-Defamation League  
Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of  
Social Workers  
Mexican American Commission  
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public  
Interest  
Nebraska Indian Commission  
Lincoln Friends Meeting

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Joseph Price  
Tyler Richard  
Jess Wolf

GLSEN – Omaha Chapter  
Self  
Nebraska State Education Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Lucas Peterson

**Representing:**

Nebraska LGBT Democratic Caucus

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Legislative findings would state that bullying disrupts a school’s ability to educate students and threatens public safety by creating an atmosphere in which such behavior can escalate into violence.

Legislative Bill 205 would create a new section and define “bullying” as any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school property, school bus stops, in school vehicles or at school sponsored events and activities. It would require all school districts to develop and adopt a policy concerning bullying prevention and education. School districts would be required to review such a policy annually.

Section 79-267 which defines student conduct that constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act would be amended to include engaging in bullying as defined in Legislative Bill 205.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

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**Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson**