

Representative Melissa G. Ballard proposes the following substitute bill:

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Melissa G. Ballard

Senate Sponsor: John D. Johnson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires prior parental notice of school assemblies.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- requires local education agencies (LEAs) to provide:
 - prior notice of certain school assemblies to parents and guardians in certain circumstances; and
 - resources related to certain school assemblies for home use by parents and guardians; and
- requires the State Board of Education to create and disseminate certain resources to LEAs.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:



26 **53G-7-224**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

27
28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **53G-7-224** is enacted to read:

30 **53G-7-224. Notice of assemblies.**

31 (1) As used in this section:

32 (a) "Assembly" means a meeting or gathering of all or part of the student body of a
33 school for the purpose of special programming or substantive information dissemination.

34 (b) "Assembly" does not include a gathering that does not contain a component of
35 substantive information dissemination and is intended:

36 (i) to support a school sports team; or

37 (ii) only for entertainment, fine arts or science education outreach, or amusement.

38 (c) "Prevention program" means:

39 (i) a program to address substance abuse under Section [53E-3-522](#);

40 (ii) youth suicide prevention programs described in Section [53G-9-702](#);

41 (iii) dropout prevention programs described in Section [53G-9-802](#); or

42 (iv) positive behaviors plans described in Section [53G-10-407](#).

43 (d) "Prevention topic" means:

44 (i) a topic or issue that is the focus of a prevention program;

45 (ii) bullying, cyber-bullying, or hazing;

46 (iii) physical or sexual abuse; or

47 (iv) mental health.

48 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), at least three calendar days before the day on
49 which an assembly takes place relating to a prevention topic or educational equity, as that term
50 is defined by the state board, an LEA shall ensure that the LEA or the relevant school:

51 (a) makes resources related to the topic of the assembly available for parents and legal
52 guardians to access for use outside the school; and

53 (b) gives notice to parents and legal guardians of students attending the relevant school,
54 through the LEA's or school's regular form of parental communication, regarding:

55 (i) the date and time of the assembly;

56 (ii) the relevant prevention topic, subject matter, and purpose of the assembly; and

57 (iii) the availability and method of accessing the resources described in Subsection
58 (2)(a).

59 (3) The three-day notice requirement in Subsection (2) does not apply in exigent
60 circumstances when a school or LEA holds an assembly:

61 (a) in response to an emergency or other unforeseen event that effects the school or
62 LEA; and

63 (b) within three calendar days of the emergency or unforeseen event described in
64 Subsection (3)(a).

65 (4) The state board shall, in consultation with the Office of Substance Use and Mental
66 Health, create and disseminate to LEAs the resources described in Subsection (2)(a).

67 **Section 2. Effective date.**

68 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2023.