

**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

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill requires prior parental notice of certain school assemblies.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms; and
- requires local education agencies to provide prior notice of certain school assemblies to parents and guardians in certain circumstances.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

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

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

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

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



(1) As used in this section:

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

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

(i) to support a school sports team; or

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

(c) "Prevention program" means:

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

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

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

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

(d) "Prevention topic" means:

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

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

(iii) physical or sexual abuse; or

(iv) mental health.

(2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), at least three calendar days before the day on which an assembly takes place relating to a prevention topic or educational equity, as that term is defined by the state board, an LEA shall ensure that the LEA or the relevant school gives notice to parents and legal guardians of students attending the relevant school, through the LEA's or school's regular form of parental communication, regarding:

(a) the date and time of the assembly; and

(b) the relevant prevention topic, subject matter, and purpose of the assembly.

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

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

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

Section 2. **Effective date.**

57           This bill takes effect on July 1, 2023.