

HIGHLIGHTS

HB 459 removes an LEA’s governmental immunity if it fails to provide assurances of employee compliance with a code of conduct's prohibition of sexual conduct or sexual relations, which include:

*Emailing information to parents on the LEA Code of Conduct, state Educator Standards, and process for filing a UPPAC complaint
Maintaining a webpage with a record of all UPPAC notifications of alleged misconduct filed by the LEA or by a community member*

- Holds LEAs accountable to the public for their legal responsibility to supervise educator conduct and oversee the safety of their students.
- Helps ensure consistent and timely responses to critical school safety issues, by both UPPAC and the LEAs.

If a parent complains about sexual abuse or other misconduct, the public should be able to see if there’s a corresponding report from the LEA on the same allegation.

- Parents and the public can track the effectiveness and efficiency of the system to provide a timely response and resolution to educator misconduct allegations.

- Provides useful public-facing information on potential student safety issues at schools.

For instance, from 2015 to 2020 (Figure 1) 42%, or almost HALF, of UPPAC investigations dealt with pornography, boundary violations, and sexual misconduct, all of which impact the safety and wellbeing of our children.

- Creates natural checks and balances on the institutions charged by the legislature to uphold high standards of professionalism and maintain public trust in our education system.
- The images below depict the breakdown of educator misconduct cases by category (Figure 1), and the investigative results and sanctions issued by UPPAC (Figure 2).

Figure 1—UPPAC Cases by Category, 2015-2020

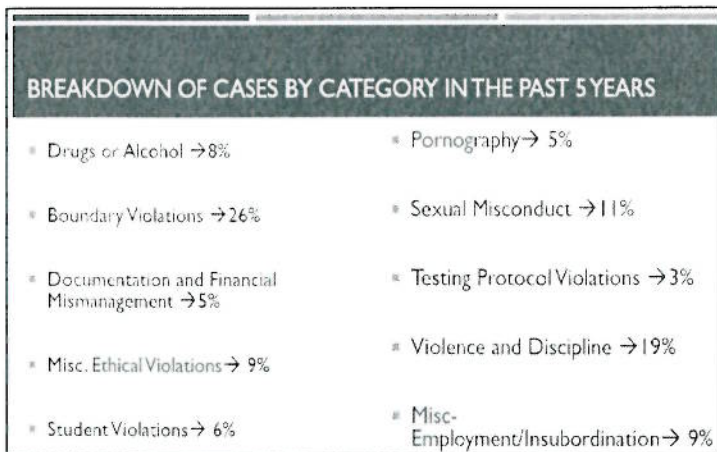


Figure 2—Possible Sanctions Resulting from UPPAC Investigations, 2017-2020

