

Legislative Information

[Status](#) [Text](#) [Summary](#) [Sponsors Memo](#)

[Voting](#) [Chapter 545 of 2008](#)

Return to: [Main Menu](#)

S7051-A SALAND Same as [A 11256-A](#) Brodsky

STATUS:

S7051-A SALAND Same as [A 11256-A](#) Brodsky

Education Law

TITLE....Relates to instruction in safe and responsible use of the internet

03/05/08 REFERRED TO EDUCATION
 05/06/08 1ST REPORT CAL.1031
 05/07/08 2ND REPORT CAL.
 05/12/08 ADVANCED TO THIRD READING
 06/16/08 AMENDED ON THIRD READING 7051A
 06/23/08 PASSED SENATE
 06/23/08 DELIVERED TO ASSEMBLY
 06/23/08 referred to ways and means
 06/23/08 substituted for a11256a
 06/23/08 ordered to third reading rules cal.698
 06/23/08 passed assembly
 06/23/08 returned to senate
 08/25/08 DELIVERED TO GOVERNOR
 09/04/08 SIGNED CHAP.545

SUMMARY:

SALAND, ALESI, BONACIC, DeFRANCISCO, FARLEY, FLANAGAN, FUSCHILLO, GOLDEN, GRIFFO, O. JOHNSON, LANZA, LARKIN, LAVALLE, LEIBELL, LITTLE, MALTESE, MAZIARZ, MORAHAN, NOZZOLIO, PADAVAN, RATH, ROBACH, SEWARD, TRUNZO, VOLKER, YOUNG
 Amd S814, Ed L

Relates to instruction in safe and responsible use of the internet; requires commissioner of education to develop software and guidelines concerning internet safety.

EFF. DATE 09/04/2008 (SEE TABLE)

SPONSORS MEMO:

NEW YORK STATE SENATE
INTRODUCER'S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
submitted in accordance with Senate Rule VI. Sec 1

BILL NUMBER: S7051A

SPONSOR: SALAND

TITLE OF BILL:

An act to amend the education law, in relation to instruction in safe and responsible use of the internet

PURPOSE:

The intent of this legislation is to protect children - and give children the knowledge to protect themselves - from predators, cyberbullies and those who seek to take advantage of them via the Internet. This bill ensures that students and parents have comprehensive, age-appropriate Internet safety resources and technical assistance to help them recognize pitfalls, take action to prevent unwanted e-mails and solicitations, and use the Internet responsibly.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent.

Section 2. Directs the State Education Commissioner to develop age-appropriate resources and technical assistance for schools to provide to students in grades three through twelve and their parents or legal guardians concerning the safe and responsible use of the Internet.

Section 3. Effective date.

JUSTIFICATION:

Today's children have grown up in the age of the Internet and most consider it a valuable conduit for high-speed learning, research, socialization, communication, recreation and global outreach. However, the Internet has also become an open, unrestricted invitation for 24/7 access to our lives, and a hunting ground for predators. In 2006 alone, the U.S. Department of Justice reported that 1 in 5 children, ages 10 to 17, received an unwanted sexual solicitation online, but only 25% of children who have been solicited told a parent according to the National

Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Surveys show that students do not report these contacts because they do not recognize the tactics used by predators under the cloak of electronic anonymity to lure, victimize and abuse their victims.

In addition, increasing numbers of children are subjected to intimidation, harassment and bullying via the computer, websites, chat rooms, text messaging and cell phones. From a 2004 survey, i-SAFE, a non-profit youth Internet safety foundation, reports that 42% of kids have been bullied while online and 1 in 4 have had it happen more than once. Those who are bullied may be reluctant to report attacks for fear of losing access to the Internet or because they are not prepared to deal with virtual-life challenges. Many children cannot resist the allure of innumerable social and "how to" websites and chat rooms that invite them to share their most intimate hopes and fears, pictures and videos that can become an unintended cyber-legacy which can impact them for years to come - or worse, cause them to be victimized by those who prey upon the innocent. The intent of this legislation is to raise awareness of the need for vigilance, and to ensure that students and parents have a comprehensive, age-appropriate Internet safety and resources guide throughout their school tenure that will enable students to maximize the Internet's potential while protecting them from sexual predators and others with malicious intentions.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

New bill.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal to the State.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This act shall take effect immediately; the Internet safety resources and guidelines will be completed on or before 180 days next succeeding that date on which this act shall have become law