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**PA Senate Bill Number 71, (The Anti-Bullying Bill) needs to be passed by the House to protect PA children from bullies and being bullied!**

*PA Senate Bill Number 71, (The Anti-Bullying Bill) is currently in the House Appropriations Committee. It needs to be moved out of the House Appropriations committee to the House Floor where it can be voted on and passed.*

**/24-7PressRelease/** - SCRANTON, PA, November 11, 2007 - Approximately 360,000 Children in PA Are Affected By Bullying Each Year.

An estimated 17.9 per cent of the children in PA schools are in some way affected by bullying each year, (and this statistic is based only on the incidents that are reported.) (1) The figure could even be potentially higher if you take into account the unreported incidents that relate to the problem of bullying in our state's schools.

The bullying of young people if not stopped in most cases leads to mild to moderate depression, truancy, and lowered academic performance on the part of the affected young person. In other cases it leads to more serious depression and even attempted suicide or murder, referred to as "Bullycide." Then there are the most serious cases where it leads to multiple acts of violence and even murder/suicide, again referred to as "Bullycide." Bullying is a most serious problem that in most cases is not promptly and properly addressed by school teachers and school administration officials.

It has been estimated that approximately 166,000 students are victims of bullying each year in PA state's schools. About 35,000 of the students are both victims and bullies themselves, and about 159,000 students are bullies.

The PA State Senate Bill, (PA Senate Bill Number 71), has been passed by the Senate to effectively deal with the issue of in-school bullying. It will require all school districts in the state to "adopt a policy relating to bullying or amend the school entity's code of student conduct required under 22 Pa. Code & 12(c) (relating to school rules) to include provisions relating to bullying." The bill is currently in the House Appropriations committee, chaired by Representative Dwight Evans, and needs to be brought out of the committee to the House floor for a vote. The state senators who introduced the bill to the state Senate for passage are Senators Greenleaf, Orié, Kitchen, Costa, Boscola, Rafferty, Fontana, Punt, Tartaglione, Erickson, O'Pake, Washington, Browne, and Stack. It is now up to the House Appropriations Committee to review Senate Bill Number 71, to make any changes to the bill as deemed appropriate and most beneficial to protect the young people in our state against bullies and bullying, and then deliver the bill to the House for a full vote. Governor Edward Rendell supports the "concept of a bullying law" and his office is currently reviewing the wording of Senate Bill Number 71 to make certain that it is the best and most appropriately worded bill, providing the best protection possible against bullying in our schools for our young people.

The young people in our state who attend school; possibly your child, children, or grandchildren need your help. Our children need to be protected from bullies and bullying while attending the schools in our state. This bill requires that the schools develop a plan to properly respond to the problem of bullying and bullies in our schools.

It is time for Senate Bill Number 71 to be addressed by the House Appropriations committee and then delivered to the House of Representatives floor for a full vote.

We need your help and support. To cast a vote in favor of protecting our children from bullies and bullying in our state's public schools go to <http://www.haroldsays.typepad.com> and cast your vote in favor of this bill.

360,000 of our children are waiting for us to act. Please act today and let's get Senate Bill Number 71 signed into law in Pennsylvania.

Harold Cameron, Chief of Helping People and Consumer Advocate for HaroldSays, located in Scranton, PA, is committed to helping consumers with their consumer related complaints, concerns, issues, or questions. I provide my services at no cost

and with no obligation to the consumer. I have also created The Be Positive Do Something Positive Day to be celebrated worldwide March 1, 2008.

For additional information about PA Senate Bill Number 71, my free consumer advocacy services, or The Be Positive Do Something Positive Day contact me.

About HaroldSays

HaroldSays is a consumer organization dedicated to helping consumers fight back and win!