



2025 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 112

Introduced by: **Senator Grove**

1 **An Act to provide a process by which a parental concern may be submitted to and**
2 **resolved by a public school.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

5 The board of a school district shall adopt procedures for a parent to notify the
6 principal of the school where the parent's child is enrolled, regarding concerns about the
7 school's procedure or practice, and a process for resolving those concerns. Upon resolution
8 of the concern, the school shall provide to the parent a description of the actions taken by
9 the school to resolve the parent's concern.

10 For the purposes of this section and sections 2, 3, and 4 of this Act, "parent" means
11 the parent, legal guardian, or other custodian of a child enrolled in a school district.

12 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

13 If the parent's concern about a school's procedure or practice is not resolved to the
14 parent's satisfaction within thirty days following the date the parent's concern is received
15 by the school, the school must provide a statement to the parent of the reasons for not
16 resolving the concern. Upon receipt of the statement, the parent may:

17 (1) Notify the board of the appropriate school district of the parent's concern about the
18 school's procedure or practice; and

19 (2) Request that the board hold a parental concern hearing.

20 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

21 A request for a parental concern hearing must include:

22 (1) The name of the child;

23 (2) The address of the residence of the child;

24 (3) The name of the school where the child is enrolled;

- 1 (4) In the case of a child that is homeless, available contact information for the child;
2 (5) A description of the nature of the parent's concern about the school's procedure or
3 practice; and
4 (6) A proposed resolution for the parent's concern.

5 **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

6 Upon receiving a request for a parental concern hearing, the board shall appoint a
7 hearing officer to determine the facts related to the dispute over the school's procedure
8 or practice and consider information provided by the school and the parent, on the
9 procedure or practice. A parental concern hearing must be conducted at a time and place
10 that is reasonably convenient to the parent requesting the hearing.

11 The hearing officer, after hearing the evidence in the matter, shall propose a
12 resolution within thirty days after being appointed. The board may accept, reject, or
13 modify the resolution recommended by the hearing officer within seven days after
14 receiving the recommended resolution. If the board rejects or modifies the proposed
15 findings, conclusions, or recommended resolution, the board must provide in writing the
16 board's reasons for doing so.

17 **Section 5. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

18 The board shall enter a final decision in writing, disposing of the proceeding, or
19 shall remand the matter for further proceedings with instructions to the hearing officer
20 who entered the recommended resolution. If the board remands a matter, the board may
21 order temporary relief as is authorized and appropriate.