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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair  
2023 - 2024 Regular Session

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### AB 10 (Lowenthal) - Pupils: body-shaming model policy and resources

**Version:** June 15, 2023

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** July 3, 2023

**Policy Vote:** ED. 7 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Lenin Del Castillo

**Bill Summary:** This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE) on or before June 30, 2024, to develop and post on its internet website a model policy and resources about body shaming that local educational agencies (LEA) may use to educate staff and pupils about the issue of body shaming.

**Fiscal Impact:** The CDE estimates one-time General Fund costs of approximately \$54,000 to develop and post the model policy on its website. The California Department of Public Health and the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission may also incur similar General Fund costs in the tens of thousands of dollars to consult with CDE on the development of the model policy and resources about body shaming.

**Background:** Existing law requires the CDE to develop, and post on its website, a model handout describing the policies addressing bias-related discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying in schools. The law also requires LEAs to adopt procedures for preventing acts of bullying, including cyberbullying, by December 31, 2019.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to post, and annually update, on the CDE's website and provide to each school district a list of statewide resources, including community-based organizations, that provide support to youth, and their families, who have been subjected to school-based discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying on the basis of religious affiliation, nationality, race, or ethnicity, or perceived religious affiliation, nationality, race, or ethnicity.

**Proposed Law:** This bill requires CDE, on or before June 30, 2024, to develop and post on its internet website a model policy and resources about body shaming that LEA's may use to educate staff and pupils about the issue of body shaming. The bill provides that CDE shall consult with the California Health and Human Services Agency and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission in the development of the resources.

This bill encourages LEAs to inform teachers, staff, parents, and pupils about the resources developed by the CDE, including, but not limited to, providing information in pupil and employee handbooks and making the information available on each schoolsite's internet website.

The bill provides that “body shaming” means the action or practice of mocking or stigmatizing a person by making critical comments or observations about the shape, size, or appearance of the person’s body.

**Related Legislation:** AB 34 (Ramos, Chapter 282, Statutes of 2019) requires LEAs, commencing with the 2020-21 school year, to provide specified bullying and harassment prevention information in a prominent location on their existing website.

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