

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 2242 (Davies)

As Amended June 11, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Requires local education agencies (LEAs) that serve students in grades 7 to 12 to display a poster that contains age-appropriate information and resources related to the practice of sextortion in at least one men's, one women's, and one all-gender restroom used by pupils. Requires the poster to include specified information and adhere to existing translation requirements.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Clarify that the poster must contain contact information for local, state, and federal law enforcement for purposes for reporting and seeking assistance related to sextortion, in addition to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

COMMENTS

What is sextortion, and how does it happen? Sextortion is a form of online enticement or blackmail. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) maintains a webpage with information and resources about sextortion. It describes sextortion as follows:

Sextortion can start on any site, app, messaging platform, or game where people meet and communicate. In some cases, the first contact from the criminal will be a threat. The person may claim to already have a revealing picture or video of a child that will be shared if the victim does not send more pictures.

More often, however, this crime starts when young people believe they are communicating with someone their own age who is interested in a relationship or with someone who is offering something of value.

After the criminals have one or more videos or pictures, they threaten to publish that content, or they threaten violence, to get the victim to produce more images. The shame, fear, and confusion children feel when they are caught in this cycle often prevents them from asking for help or reporting the abuse. Caregivers and young people should understand how the crime occurs and openly discuss online safety.

The FBI further describes financial sextortion as follows:

In these cases, the offender receives sexually explicit material from the child and then threatens to release the compromising material unless the victim sends money and/or gift cards. The amount requested varies, and the offender often releases the victim's sexually explicit material regardless of whether or not they receive payment. This increasing threat has resulted in an alarming number of deaths by suicide.

Rates of online enticement, including sextortion, are rising. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) observed a 300% increase in reports of online enticement, which includes sextortion, between 2021 and 2023. In 2023, their online CyberTipline received 186,000 reports of online enticement; in 2024, that number rose to 456,000 reports. The extent to which

this increase represents improved awareness of online enticement and how to report it, versus an increase in the actual crime, is unknown.

NCMEC sextortion resources. This bill requires the poster to include a link to guidance from the NCMEC, which maintains a page on online enticement, including sextortion. The resources gathered are thorough and easy to understand, and include information about how sextortion occurs, how to report it, and where to receive support.

According to the Author

According to the author, "Our children are facing a digital crisis where 'sextortion' and technology-facilitated harassment are devastating lives in the shadows of our schools. While existing laws mandate that sexual harassment policies stay tucked away in administrative offices, AB 2242 meets students where they are by placing life-saving information and reporting resources in the private, high-traffic areas of restrooms and locker rooms. By requiring these notices to be printed in both English and Spanish, we are ensuring that every student, regardless of their background or primary language, has the tools to identify exploitation and the courage to come forward. We must act now to transform our schools from passive observers into proactive shields against the predators who weaponize technology to target our youth."

Arguments in Support

According to the San Diego District Attorney's Office, "Sextortion is a form of child sexual exploitation that disproportionately targets minors through online platforms. Perpetrators often obtain intimate images through deception and threaten to distribute those images unless victims provide money, additional content, or engage in sexual acts. Many victims are driven by fear of humiliation and exposure to comply rather than seek help. AB 2242 will empower students in prevention and intervention measures against sextortion before any further harm can be caused."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, "One-time Proposition 98 General Fund costs for all LEAs serving students in grades seven through 12, to post a sextortion information poster in bathrooms within each schoolsite, as specified.

According to the CDE, there are more than 400 unified and high school districts in California, collectively representing approximately 3,000 individual schoolsites, in addition to several elementary school districts who may also serve grades seven and eight as well as charter schools. If every impacted LEA incurred costs of \$50 associated with designing, printing, and posting the required poster at each schoolsite, costs could be at least \$150,000 statewide."

One-time General Fund cost pressures of an unknown amount, likely minor and absorbable, for the CDE to develop and post a model poster template.

VOTES:**ASM EDUCATION: 9-0-0**

YES: Patel, Hoover, Alvarez, Bonta, Alanis, Garcia, Lowenthal, Pellerin, Zbur

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0-4

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

ABS, ABST OR NV: Jackson, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

SENATE FLOOR: 39-0-1

YES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes

UPDATED

VERSION: June 11, 2026

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FN: 0003812