

MEMORANDUM

To: Indiana School Superintendents and Principals

From: Jeff Wittman, School Social Work and Foster Youth Specialist

Date: May 15, 2020

Re: Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 295 - Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse Curricula (1 of 2)

Background:

Senate Enrolled Act 295 (2020) is a various education matters bill affecting numerous parts of Indiana Code. This guidance pertains to Section 1 of SEA 295 which expands instructional options regarding child abuse and child sexual abuse instruction.

Guidance:

SEA 295 updates existing law (IC 20-30-5-5.7) by requiring public schools, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools to use research or evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse. Instruction must be completed by December 15 of each school year. Previously, schools were required to use both research and evidence-based instruction. Now, schools have the option to choose one or the other type of instruction. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will work in collaboration with school safety specialists, school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists to help identify effective and promising materials that may be utilized for instruction according to the parameters of this revised legislation. Once completed, this information will be released on IDOE's webpage located [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Wittman by phone at (317) 234-5704 or through email at jwittman@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Senator Jeff Raatz and the full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).