

## Karen Hill

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**From:** Charlie Glaes  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2011 10:05 AM  
**To:** Karen Hill  
**Subject:** FW: [Legislative Update] Legislative Update for the Week of October 31- November 4, 2011

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**From:** Michigan Association of School Administrators [mailto:admin@gomasa.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 04, 2011 1:31 PM  
**To:** Charlie Glaes  
**Subject:** [Legislative Update] Legislative Update for the Week of October 31- November 4, 2011



In this weekly update . . .

### **Senate Passes Controversial Anti-Bullying Bill**

### **House Panel Hears More Testimony on Charter Cap**

### **School Board Election Bills Move Forward**

### **Senate Passes Controversial Anti-Bullying Bill**

**On Wednesday the Senate passes Senate Bill 137** introduced by Sen. Rick Jones. The bill would mandate school district to develop a bullying policy. If the bill is passed, districts would have 60 days to adopt and implement a policy preventing bullying and harassment.

The bill would also require the board to hold a public hearing on the policy and to submit it to the MDE.

"Bullying or harassment" is defined as abuse of a pupil by one or more other pupils that substantially interferes with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more pupils, or adversely affects the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from educational programs or activities by placing him or her in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress.

"At school" would mean in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. The term would include conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the device

or provider is owned by or under the control of the school district or PSA.

Before the bill passes, the Republicans offered and substitute that added the following language:

This section does not prohibit a statement of a sincerely held religious believe or moral conviction of a school employee, school volunteer, pupil or a pupil's parent or guardian.

Democrats argued that this exception would essential allow for a “[license to bully](#)” and Supt. Mike Flanagan issued a statement calling the bill “[a joke.](#)”

Below is the roll call on passage of SB137

Senators voting Yes—26

Booher Hansen Marleau Proos

Brandenburg Hildenbrand Meekhof Richardville

Casperson Hune Moolenaar Robertson

Caswell Jansen Nofs Rocca

Colbeck Jones Pappageorge Schuitmaker

Emmons Kahn Pavlov Walker

Green Kowall

Senators Voting No—11

Anderson Gregory Hunter Warren

Bieda Hood Johnson Whitmer

Gleason Hopgood Smith

MASA staff will continue to monitor this legislation and keep you updated if it moves in the Hous

### **House Panel Hears More Testimony on Charter Cap**

The House Education Committee continues to hear testimony on Senate Bill [618](#), the bill to eliminate the cap on charter schools. On Wednesday, the committee heard for a number of superintendents who travelled to Lansing to voice concerns about the bill.

The committee is expected to meet next week on Wednesday at the House Office Building. MASA strongly encourages members to attend the hearing and to testify on the bill. Members are also encouraged to contact your districts Representatives to encourage

opposition on the bill.

### **School Board Election Bills Move Forward**

The two bills that change school board election dates passed the House and the Senate this week. Together, House Bill [4005](#) and Senate Bill [427](#) move all school board elections to November of even numbered years.

Here's how Senate members voted on HB 4005

Senators voting Yes—24

Booher Hune Marleau Richardville

Brandenburg Hunter Meekhof Robertson

Colbeck Jansen Moolenaar Rocca

Gleason Jones Pappageorge Schuitmaker

Green Kahn Pavlov Walker

Hildenbrand Kowall Proos Whitmer

Senators voting No—14

Anderson Emmons Hopgood Smith

Bieda Gregory Johnson Warren

Casperson Hansen Nofs Young

Caswell Hood

Here's how House members voted on SB 427

Representatives Voting Yes—70

Agema Haines Lori Potvin

Bauer Haveman Lund Price

Bolger Heise Lyons Pscholka  
Callton Hooker MacGregor Rendon  
Constan Horn MacMaster Rogers  
Cotter Hughes McMillin Santana  
Crawford Huuki Meadows Schmidt, W.  
Daley Jackson Moss Scott  
Damrow Jacobsen Muxlow Shaughnessy  
Denby Jenkins Nesbitt Shirkey  
Farrington Johnson O'Brien Somerville  
Forlini Knollenberg Olson Stamas  
Foster Kowall Opsommer Switalski  
Franz Kurtz Ouimet Tyler  
Genetski LaFontaine Outman Walsh  
Gilbert Lane Pettalia Yonker  
Glardon LeBlanc Poleski Zorn  
Goike Liss

Representatives Voting No—37

Ananich Dillon Lindberg Segal  
Barnett Durhal Lipton Slavens  
Bledsoe Geiss McBroom Smiley  
Brown Hammel McCann Stanley  
Brunner Hobbs Nathan Stapleton  
Bumstead Hovey-Wright Oakes Talabi  
Byrum Howze Olumba Tlaib

Cavanagh Irwin Rutledge Townsend

Clemente Kandrevas Schmidt, R. Womack

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If you have question about any issue addressed in this update contact: Brad Biladeau [bbiladeau@gomasa.org](mailto:bbiladeau@gomasa.org) or David Randels [drandels@gomasa.org](mailto:drandels@gomasa.org)

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