



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Instructional Leaders

FROM: Dr. Julie Gore Fowler, Deputy Superintendent
Division of College and Career Readiness

DATE: September 22, 2015

RE: Erin's Law

Section 59-32-20(B) of the South Carolina Code of Laws was amended June 2014 (H.4061, Act 293) to read that the State Board of Education through the S.C. Department of Education "shall select or develop instructional units in sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention, with separate units appropriate for each age level from four-year-old kindergarten through twelfth grade." Relating to the requirement that local school districts implement the comprehensive health education program, among other things, Section 59-32-30(G) was amended so as to provide that "beginning with the 2015–2016 school year, districts annually shall provide age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention to all students in four-year-old kindergarten, where offered, through twelfth grade. This instruction must be based on the units developed by the board, through the department, pursuant to Section 59-32-20(B)."

On August 12, the State Board of Education approved a [resource guide](#) of instructional units. The guide and instructional units are offered to districts as a supplemental resource for the district's curriculum to provide age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention. If your district is interested in learning more about these instructional materials, please join one of the professional learning opportunities provided regionally this fall. The delivery of sexual abuse and sexual assault prevention instruction will be discussed. The training dates and registration will be made available through district instructional leaders and the local district's contact person for health and physical education.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Dr. Christine Beyer, cbeyer@ed.sc.gov, (803) 734-2782.