

Senate Resolution 623

By: Senators McKoon of the 29th, Shafer of the 48th, Bethel of the 54th and Heath of the 31st

ADOPTED SENATE**A RESOLUTION**

1 Creating the Senate Select Study Committee on Erin's Law; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, sexual abuse figures are staggering in that one out of four girls and one out of
3 six boys are sexually abused; and

4 WHEREAS, Erin's Law is urging lawmakers across the country to make education about
5 child sexual abuse part of schools' curriculum; and

6 WHEREAS, the goal of the study committee is to reduce child sexual abuse by
7 recommending policy and possible legislation that addresses child reporting of sexual abuse.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
9 Select Study Committee on Erin's Law to be composed of five members as follows:

- 10 (1) The chairperson of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee or his or her
11 designee;
- 12 (2) The chairperson of the Senate Public Safety Committee or his or her designee;
- 13 (3) The chairperson of the Senate Education and Youth Committee or his or her designee;
- 14 (4) An appointee of the President Pro Tempore; and
- 15 (5) An appointee of the President of the Senate.

16 The Lieutenant Governor shall designate a chairperson from among the appointees. The
17 committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a comprehensive study
19 in order to recommend to the legislature policies to adopt, which may include sexual abuse
20 of children that may include age-appropriate curriculum for students in pre-k through twelfth
21 grade; training of school personnel on child sexual abuse; education information to parents
22 or guardians on the warning signs of a child being abused, along with any needed assistance,
23 referral, or resource information; available counseling and resources for students affected by
24 sexual abuse; and emotional and educational support for a child of abuse to continue to be
25 successful in school. The committee shall gather verified and corroborated research on the

26 effectiveness of sexual abuse awareness education to better inform the General Assembly on
27 how to fight child sexual abuse. The study committee shall also take into consideration and
28 recognize current school mandates and consider what financial impact mandated sexual
29 abuse curriculum will have on schools. The committee shall include in its final report its
30 findings and include any recommendations for changes to state law. The committee may
31 conduct its meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient
32 to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish
33 the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive
34 the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees from the
35 funds appropriated by the Senate but shall receive the same for not more than five days
36 unless additional days are authorized. The committee is directed to make a report of its
37 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, not later
38 than December 31, 2013. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2013.