



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4855

by Rep. Janet Yang Rohr

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

405 ILCS 49/20 new

Amends the Children's Mental Health Act. Requires each school district to ensure that every student in grades K-12 receives direct instruction in social and emotional learning no fewer than 4 times each academic year, approximately once per academic quarter. Requires social and emotional learning instruction to be delivered by a trained professional, provided during a class period, and address age-appropriate competencies as outlined in the Illinois Learning Standards for Social/Emotional Learning. Requires classroom teachers to reinforce social and emotional learning concepts through integrated academic curriculum and classroom practices. Requires each school district to provide professional development to assist educators in aligning instructional practices with social and emotional learning principles. Effective January 1, 2028.

LRB104 16605 KTG 30005 b

1 AN ACT concerning mental health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Children's Mental Health Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 20 as follows:

6 (405 ILCS 49/20 new)

7 Sec. 20. Delivery and reinforcement of social and  
8 emotional learning instruction.

9 (a) Purpose. The General Assembly finds that social and  
10 emotional learning is essential to academic achievement and  
11 student well-being, and that such instruction is most  
12 effective when provided by trained professionals and  
13 reinforced throughout the curriculum.

14 (b) Definitions. As used in this Section:

15 "Trained professional" means a licensed school counselor,  
16 school psychologist, or school social worker employed by or  
17 contracted with the school district.

18 "Class period" means a minimum of 30 minutes or  
19 instructional period regularly scheduled for a core or encore  
20 subject in the district's daily schedule.

21 "Integrated curriculum" means the intentional  
22 reinforcement of social and emotional learning competencies  
23 within classroom instruction, consistent with the Illinois

1 Social and Emotional Learning Standards adopted by the  
2 Illinois State Board of Education.

3 (c) Instructional requirement. Each school district shall  
4 ensure that every student in grades K-12 receives direct  
5 instruction in social and emotional learning no fewer than 4  
6 times each academic year, approximately once per academic  
7 quarter. Such instruction shall:

8 (1) be delivered by a trained professional;

9 (2) be provided during a class period; and

10 (3) address age-appropriate competencies as outlined  
11 in the Illinois Learning Standards for Social/Emotional  
12 Learning.

13 (d) Reinforcement and integration. Classroom teachers  
14 shall reinforce social and emotional learning concepts through  
15 integrated academic curriculum and classroom practices. Each  
16 school district shall provide professional development to  
17 assist educators in aligning instructional practices with  
18 social and emotional learning principles.

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
20 1, 2028.