



Sen. Cristina H. Pacione-Zayas

Filed: 3/21/2023

10300SB2039sam002

LRB103 27611 RJT 59295 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2039

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2039 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 Section 2-3.163 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.163)

7 Sec. 2-3.163. PUNS ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for~~
8 ~~Services~~ database information for students and parents or
9 guardians.

10 (a) The General Assembly makes all of the following
11 findings:

12 (1) Pursuant to Section 10-26 of the Department of
13 Human Services Act, the ~~The~~ Department of Human Services
14 maintains a statewide database known as the PUNS
15 ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~ that
16 records information about individuals with intellectual

1 disabilities or developmental disabilities who are
2 potentially in need of services.

3 (2) The Department of Human Services uses the data on
4 PUNS ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~ to
5 select individuals for services as funding becomes
6 available, to develop proposals and materials for
7 budgeting, and to plan for future needs.

8 (3) The PUNS database ~~Prioritization of Urgency of~~
9 ~~Need for Services~~ is available for ~~children and~~ adults
10 with intellectual disabilities or a developmental
11 disabilities ~~disability~~ who have ~~an~~ unmet service needs
12 ~~need~~ anticipated in the next 5 years. The PUNS database is
13 also available for children with intellectual disabilities
14 or developmental disabilities with unmet service needs.

15 (4) Registration to be included on the PUNS database
16 ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~ is the
17 first step toward receiving ~~getting~~ developmental
18 disabilities services in this State. A child or an adult
19 who is ~~If individuals are~~ not on the PUNS database, will
20 not be ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~
21 ~~waiting list, they are not~~ in queue for State
22 developmental disabilities services.

23 (5) Lack of awareness and information about the PUNS
24 database results in underutilization or delays in
25 registration for the PUNS database by students with
26 intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities

1 and their parents or guardians ~~Prioritization of Urgency~~
2 ~~of Need for Services may be underutilized by children and~~
3 ~~their parents or guardians due to lack of awareness or~~
4 ~~lack of information.~~

5 (B) The purpose of this Section is to ensure that each
6 student who has an individualized education program and the
7 student's parents or guardian are informed about the PUNS
8 database, where to register for the PUNS database, and who
9 they can contact for information about the PUNS database and
10 the PUNS database registration process. This Section is not
11 intended to change the PUNS database registration process
12 established by the Department of Human Services or to impose
13 any responsibility on the State Board of Education or a school
14 district to register students for the PUNS database.

15 (b) The State Board of Education shall ~~may~~ work in
16 collaboration with the Department of Human Services and with
17 school districts to ensure that ~~inform~~ all students with
18 intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities and
19 their parents or guardians are informed about the PUNS
20 ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~ database, as
21 described in subsections (c), (d) and (e) of this Section.

22 As used in this Section "PUNS" means the Prioritization of
23 Urgency of Need for Services database or PUNS database
24 developed and maintained by the Department of Human Services
25 pursuant to Section 10-26 of the Department of Human Services
26 Act.

1 (c) ~~The Subject to appropriation, the~~ Department of Human
2 Services and State Board of Education shall develop and
3 implement an online, computer-based training program for at
4 least one designated employee in every public school in this
5 State to educate the designated employee or employees ~~him or~~
6 ~~her~~ about the PUNS ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for~~
7 ~~Services~~ database and steps required to register students for
8 the PUNS database, including the documentation and information
9 the parents or guardian will need for the registration
10 process. ~~to be taken to ensure children and adolescents are~~
11 ~~enrolled.~~ The training shall include instruction on
12 identifying and contacting ~~for at least one designated~~
13 ~~employee in every public school in contacting~~ the appropriate
14 developmental disabilities Independent Service Coordination
15 agency ("ISC") to register students for the PUNS database.
16 ~~enroll children and adolescents in the database.~~ The training
17 of the designated employee or employees shall also include
18 information about organizations and programs available in this
19 State that offer assistance to families in understanding the
20 PUNS database and navigating the PUNS database registration
21 process. Each school district shall post on its public website
22 and include in its student handbook the names of the
23 designated trained employee or employees in each school within
24 the school district. ~~At least one designated employee in every~~
25 ~~public school shall ensure the opportunity to enroll in the~~
26 ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services database is~~

1 ~~discussed during annual individualized education program (IEP)~~
2 ~~meetings for all children and adolescents believed to have a~~
3 ~~developmental disability.~~

4 (c-5) During the student's annual individualized education
5 program (IEP) review meeting, if the student is believed to
6 have an intellectual disability or a developmental disability,
7 the student's IEP team shall determine the student's PUNS
8 database registration status based upon information provided
9 by the student's parents or guardian or by the student. If it
10 is determined that the student is not registered for the PUNS
11 database or if it is unclear whether the student is registered
12 for the PUNS database, the parents or guardian and the student
13 shall be referred to a designated employee of the public
14 school who has completed the training described in subsection
15 (c). The designated employee may, but need not be, a member of
16 the student's IEP team. The designated trained employee shall
17 provide the student's parents or guardian and the student with
18 the name, location and contact information of the appropriate
19 ISC to contact in order to register the student for the PUNS
20 database. The designated trained employee shall also identify
21 for the parents or guardian and student the information and
22 documentation they will need to complete the PUNS database
23 registration process with the ISC, and shall also provide
24 information to the parents or guardian and student about
25 organizations and programs available in this State that offer
26 information to families about the PUNS database and the PUNS

1 database registration process.

2 (d) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
3 Department of Human Services, through school districts, shall
4 provide to parents and guardians of each student with an IEP
5 ~~students~~ a copy of the latest version of the Department of
6 Human Services's guide titled "Understanding PUNS: A Guide to
7 Prioritization for Urgency of Need for Services" each year at
8 the annual review meeting for the student's individualized
9 education program, ~~including the consideration required in~~
10 ~~subsection (c) of this Section.~~

11 (e) (Blank). ~~The Department of Human Services shall~~
12 ~~consider the length of time spent on the Prioritization of~~
13 ~~Urgency of Need for Services waiting list, in addition to~~
14 ~~other factors considered, when selecting individuals on the~~
15 ~~list for services.~~

16 (Source: P.A. 102-57, eff. 7-9-21.)".