



Sen. Cristina H. Pacione-Zayas

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10300SB2039sam003

LRB103 27611 RJT 59733 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2039

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 2039, AS AMENDED,  
3 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the  
4 following:

5 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
6 2-3.163 as follows:

7 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.163)

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

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

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

1 records information about individuals with intellectual  
2 disabilities or developmental disabilities who are  
3 potentially in need of services.

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 (a-10) As used in this Section, "PUNS" means the  
18 Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services database or  
19 PUNS database developed and maintained by the Department of  
20 Human Services pursuant to Section 10-26 of the Department of  
21 Human Services Act.

22 (b) The State Board of Education shall ~~may~~ work in  
23 consultation with the Department of Human Services and with  
24 school districts to ensure that ~~inform~~ all students with  
25 intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities and  
26 their parents or guardians are informed about the PUNS

1 ~~Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services~~ database, as  
2 described in subsections (c), (c-5), and (d) of this Section.

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

1 ~~ensure the opportunity to enroll in the Prioritization of~~  
2 ~~Urgency of Need for Services database is discussed during~~  
3 ~~annual individualized education program (IEP) meetings for all~~  
4 ~~children and adolescents believed to have a developmental~~  
5 ~~disability.~~

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

1 database and the PUNS 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 the parents and guardians of each student with an  
5 IEP 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.)".