



UNDERSTANDING CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 848 (SB848)

**New legislation creates child sexual abuse compliance standards for California Private Schools**

# ADDENDUM 1

**LEGISLATIVE INTENT | POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

## PREPARED BY

Gregory S. Love, Esq.  
Kimberlee D. Norris, Esq.  
Georgia McKnight, Esq.

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## ADDRESS

6001 River Oaks Blvd  
Fort Worth, Texas 76114

## WEBSITE

[MinistrySafe.com](https://MinistrySafe.com)  
[AbusePreventionSystems.com](https://AbusePreventionSystems.com)

## PHONE

833-737-SAFE (7233)

## EMAIL

[Support@MinistrySafe.com](mailto:Support@MinistrySafe.com)  
[Support@AbusePreventionSystems.com](mailto:Support@AbusePreventionSystems.com)

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## LEGISLATIVE INTENT | POLICIES & PROCEDURES

### Brief Analysis

Effective July 1, 2026.

The purpose and legislative intent of the ‘Safe Learning Environment Act’ is to protect students from sexual offenses committed by adults (school employees, volunteers and contractors) and peers (other students).

The California legislature intends to accomplish this, in part, by requiring all schools – including Private Schools – to adopt written Policies that promote safe environments. The matters to be addressed by the written Policies include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Boundaries between the student and others (adults and other students);
- Boundaries related to contact during and outside typical school programming; and
- Boundaries related to communication (including social media and electronic communication).

MinistrySafe and Abuse Prevention Systems (APS) provide sample Policy forms related to student safety in core school programming, as well as Supplemental Policy forms for Athletics and Fine Arts. All Policies dovetail with MinistrySafe/APS online Trainings. [LEARN MORE.](#)

**SECTION 1.** Article 10 (commencing with Section 32100) is added to Chapter 1 of Part 19 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the Education Code, to read:

### Article 10. Professional Boundaries Between Adults and Pupils and the Safety of Learning Environments

32100. (a) *It is the intent of the Legislature that school districts, schools operated by county offices of education, charter schools, private schools, and state special schools and diagnostic centers operated by the department be safe and nurturing places for pupils that are free of fear and threats of violence and free of violent crimes and sexual offenses committed by, or intended to be committed by, other pupils, school employees, volunteers, and contractors.*
- (b) *On or before July 1, 2026, each governing board of a school district, county board of education, and governing body of a charter school or private school, and the department, for purposes of state special schools and diagnostic centers operated by the department, shall do both of the following:*
- (1) *Adopt written policies that promote safe environments for pupil learning and engagement, consistent with the legislative intent specified in subdivision (a), and that do both of the following:*
    - (A) *Explicitly address professional boundaries (i) between pupils and school employees, adult volunteers, and school contractors, (ii) among and between pupils, and (iii) among and between adults employed, volunteering, or under contract.*
    - (B) *Establish appropriate limits on contact during or outside of the school-day between pupils and school employees, volunteers, and school contractors via social media internet platforms, text messaging, and other forms of communication that do not otherwise include the pupil's parent or guardian. The policies may vary the limitations based on the age or grade of the pupil.*
  - (2) *Adopt written policies, plans, or specifications regarding school facilities, and the furnishing of school facilities, that address classroom and nonclassroom environments to promote safe environments for learning and engagement that are easily supervised.*