

SB 1273 (Bradford) – Talking Points

What does SB 1273 do?

- SB 1273 will eliminate the mandatory requirement that schools notify law enforcement for a wide range of student behavior such as possession of cannabis or alcohol, or any assault on a school employee.
- Eliminating these mandatory notifications gives teachers and administrators, who are often best suited to determine the appropriate response, the flexibility to respond based on the particular circumstances of the incident or an individual student's situation.

Why does it matter?

- Black students, Latinx students, students of color, and students with disabilities are disproportionately referred to law enforcement, cited, and arrested.
- Involving law enforcement in the response to common child and adolescent school related behavior contributes to racial inequities in academic achievement and the school-to-prison pipeline. A student's interaction with law enforcement decreases their likelihood of completing high school while increasing the likelihood that they will have contact with the criminal legal system.

Shouldn't we still require calls when there's an assault with a deadly weapon?

- When a student is found in possession of a firearm, or any of a long list of other kinds of weapons, the school will still be required to notify law enforcement, consistent with the requirements of federal law. In almost all cases, assault with a deadly weapon will require notification under this provision.
- Schools are best equipped to determine the appropriate response. This bill would give educators and school staff the flexibility to make the determination as to what intervention makes sense for a particular incident.

How do educators and school personnel feel about the bill?

- Many groups understand the need for discretion in situations that may lead to student contact with law enforcement.
- SB 1273 has the support of the following groups:
 - Association of California School Administrators (ACSA)
 - California Association of School Counselors
 - California Association of School Social Workers
 - United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA)