



SB 100  
(Public Act 99-456)

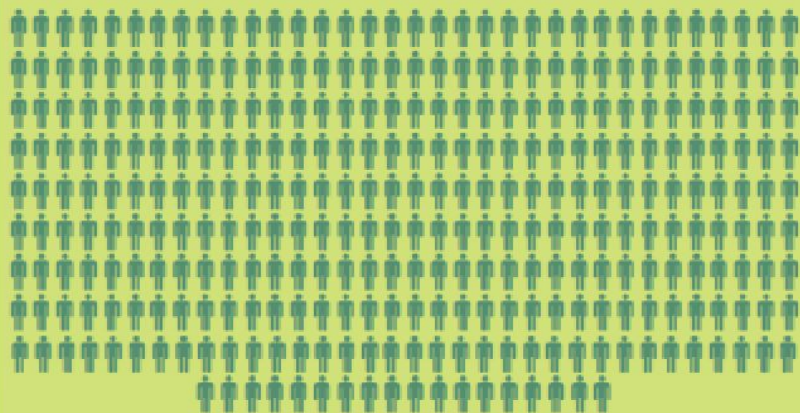
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# From VOYCE's Website [www.voyceproject.org](http://www.voyceproject.org)

## DID YOU KNOW...



Every day in Chicago schools **324** students are suspended.



**92%** of all suspensions are for minor infractions.<sup>1</sup>



Every day in Chicago schools **29** students are arrested. Half of these students are 15 or younger.<sup>2</sup>



**97%** of all school-based arrests in Chicago are of Black and Latino students.<sup>3</sup>

1 Source: Public records requested by VOYCE/Advancement Project, Illinois State Board of Education (January 2012).

2 Source: Public records requested by VOYCE/Advancement Project, Chicago Police Department (February 2012).

3 Ibid.

# Public Act 99-456

## Minor Statutory Changes

- Parent-teacher advisory committee must meet annually to discuss bullying prevention.
- School districts are “encouraged” to create a memorandum of understanding with law enforcement agencies.
- School board “may not institute zero-tolerance” policies for student discipline.
- School officials “shall limit the use of expulsions and suspensions to the greatest extent practicable.”



# Public Act 99-456

## Minor Statutory Changes

- Recommended that school officials “consider...non-exclusionary discipline.”
- School officials shall not advise or encourage students to drop out of school due to behavioral or academic difficulties.
- A student shall not be issued a monetary fee as a disciplinary consequence.

# Short Term Suspensions

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Out of school suspensions for three days or less (1-3 days) may be used only if the student's continuing presence in school would:

- Pose a threat to school safety; or
- Pose a disruption to other students' learning opportunities.

Determining whether a student's continuing presence constitutes a "threat to school safety" or a "disruption to other students' learning opportunities" is left to the discretion of the school board or Administration

# Long-Term Suspension

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Out of school suspensions for more than three days (4-10 days), expulsions and disciplinary removals to alternative schools may be used only if:

- Other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions have been exhausted; and
- The student's continuing presence in school would either:
  - Pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff or members of the school community; or
  - Substantially disrupt, impede or interfere with the operation of the school.

# Short Term vs Long Term Discipline

Short Term (1 to 3 days)

Long Term (4 to 10 days)

A Threat to School Safety

A Threat to School Safety of other students, staff or school community

Disruption to Learning Environment

Substantially disrupts, impedes, or interferes with the operation of the school

# Supports

Suspension longer than four (5-10 days) school days must be provided **appropriate and available support services** during the period of their suspension.

If a student is suspended, the suspension decision/notice must:

- Detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in the decision to suspend;
- Include a rationale as to the specific duration of the suspension;
- Include whether other interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that there were no other appropriate and available interventions;  
and



# Expelling a student

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If a student is expelled, the expulsion decision must:

- **Detail the specific reasons** as to why removing the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school;
- Include a **rationale as to the specific duration** of the expulsion; and
- Include whether other **interventions were attempted** or whether it was determined that there were no other appropriate and available interventions.

# Looking at Alternatives to Out-of-School Discipline

- Expanded use of in-school suspension
- Saturday school
- Removal of certain privileges
- Ineligibility for school activities



# SB100 - Handbook Language

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No punishment can be given for students who do not serve the original discipline

“Grayer” wording - a scale of punishment must be given for each offense  
(discipline may range from a detention to saturday detention)

No suspension for certain offenses anymore (tobacco or lighter possession)

Currently tobacco possession would be a 2 day suspension, BUT the new policy would not be a suspension unless the student was distributing or smoking the tobacco.