## Bills in the News: Cyberbullying

Posted At: January 25, 2011 2:52 PM | Posted By: TexasLRL

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In this occasional post, we will feature topics receiving widespread media coverage and bills filed during the 82nd legislative session on these topics.

Bills in the News: Cyberbullying

Bullying in schools is nothing new, but cyberbullying is gaining attention. Parents and teachers may find it as alarming and frightening as the children who are victims of it. Recent news stories have indicated that the consequences can turn deadly.

"Lawmakers trying to take on bullying again" from the *Houston Chronicle*, explains that bullying and cyberbullying can lead to tragic results, but children may be unwilling to speak up.

"From lockers to lock-up" from *Newsweek*, explores the difficulties of defining bullying, and when to consider bullying a crime.

"Bills on bullying filed by Texas legislators" from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, addresses bullying and cyberbullying, and how the Texas Legislature plans to tackle the issue.

A number of bills have been filed in the 82nd Regular Session relating to bullying and cyberbullying in schools, and you can find them under the subject "Bullying" at the Texas Legislature Online.

Below, you can find a list of links to resources related to cyberbullying:

- National Conference of State Legislatures overview and state statutes collection on cyberstalking, cyberharassment and cyberbullying.
- Archived National Conference of State Legislatures webinar, "How States are Addressing School Bullying: From the Schoolyard to Cyberspace."
- Indicators of School Crime & Safety, 2010, compiled jointly by the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics.
- Council of State Governments Knowledge Center, "Cyberbullying and State Law."