

Corporal Punishment Issue Brief



Issue Brief

Corporal Punishment

Epd Corporal Punishment in Florida Schools

History and Related Bills

18 states—almost a third of Florida's 47 school districts—require incidents of corporal punishment in 2017. It is based on the most recent statewide data. The data confirm the practice as "the moderate use of physical force or physical contact by a teacher or principal to maintain discipline or to enforce school rules." (Phelan, n.d.)

Corporal punishment refers to spanking, paddling, or other forms of physical discipline in schools. While many states have banned corporal punishment in public schools, Florida is not the practice. A Florida parent must give approval in writing before any paddling is used and must be carried out in the presence of another informed adult. (Phelan, n.d.) (Impact, n.d.)

§ 1002. Corpnal Punishment in Public Schools 2017-18. Fla. Statutes was introduced on 7/1/2019. This bill asked that only school principals and not teachers, administer corporal punishment to public school students; requiring school principals to notify students' parents in writing and make a written consent before administering corporal punishment; requiring school principals who have administered corporal punishment to provide parents with written explanations of the punishment; authorizing teachers and other educational personnel to require that principals administer corporal punishment etc. This bill also on 8/14/2020 (Senata, n.d.)

What's happening with current bills?

Repealing our Students in Schools Act of 2020 was introduced in the Senate on 12/01/2020. This bill prohibits the use of corporal punishment in schools that receive federal funding. It also addresses enforcement provisions, including a private right of action for a student who has been subjected to corporal punishment; creates a grant program for state education agencies to implement pilot programs that demonstrate and supports to address student behavior and reduce exclusionary and punitive discipline practices. (Cheney, n.d.) (Track, n.d.)

Why support an end to corporal punishment?

Corporal Punishment for Students with Disabilities can create lasting, lasting and barriers to education. It can also aggravate medical conditions for students with disabilities. Sometimes students are punished for manifestations of their disabilities. (Souderton, n.d.)

Corporal Punishment can inflict long lasting physical and mental harm. Studies have shown that the use of corporal punishment can lead to higher rates for anxiety, depression, substance abuse, stress, and other mental health concerns. (Souderton, n.d.)

Corporal punishment has been banned in 42 prisons and military training and animals are protected from the same sort of punishment. (Anti-Corporal Punishment, n.d.)

Definitions

Corporal punishment is defined as a physical punishment and a punishment that involves hitting someone. In Florida, corporal punishment is often applied, with either a hand or paddle, or using a student across his/her hand with a ruler or another sharp, blunt instrument, including the use of a chemical spray and Taser have also been reported by 42 schools. (Phelan, n.d.)

Source:

1. [American Psychological Association](#)
2. [Florida Department of Education](#)
3. [Florida Statutes](#)
4. [Florida Statutes](#)
5. [Florida Statutes](#)
6. [Florida Statutes](#)
7. [Florida Statutes](#)



SEALS

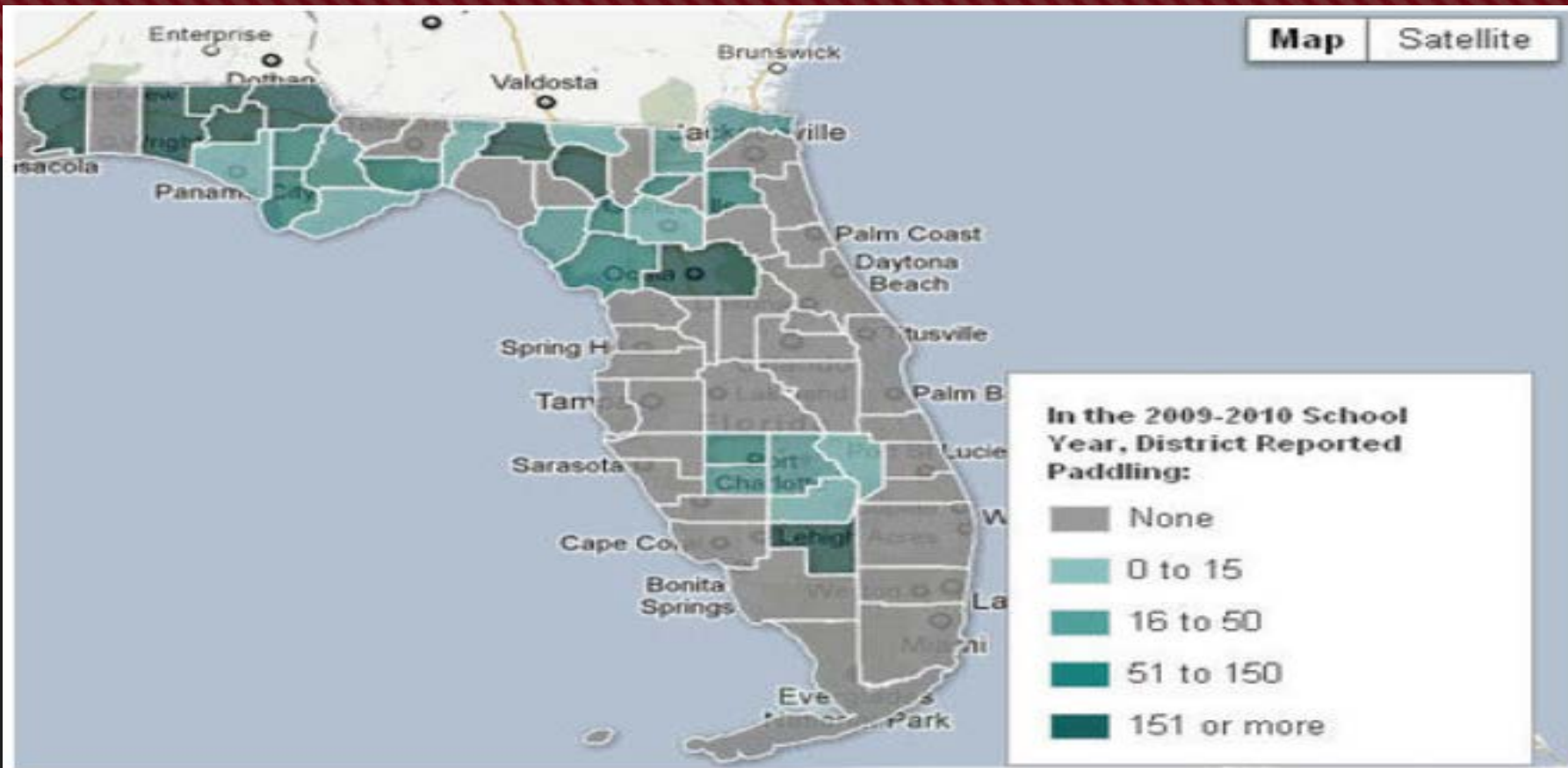
End Corporal Punishment in Florida Schools



What is Corporal Punishment?

- Corporal punishment is defined as a “physical punishment” and a “punishment that involves hitting someone.” In K-12 schools, corporal punishment is often spanking, with either a hand or paddle, or striking a student across his/her hand with a ruler or leather strap. More extreme instances, including the use of a chemical spray and Taser have also been recorded by US schools. (ProCon, n.d.)

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A district-by-district look at how Florida schools used corporal punishment in the 2009-2010 school year.

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History and Related Bills

SB 1058: Corporal Punishment in Public Schools

- GENERAL BILL by Taddeo was introduced on 7/1/2019. This bill asked that only school principals, and not teachers, administer corporal punishment to public school students; requiring school principals to notify students' parents in writing and receive written consent before administering corporal punishment.

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Why support an end to corporal punishment?

- Corporal Punishment for Students with Disabilities can create lasting injuries and barriers to education.
- Corporal Punishment can inflict long lasting physical and mental harm.
- Corporal punishment has been banned in US prisons and military training and animals are protected from the same sort of punishment.

(Education, n.d.)

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What's happening with current bills?

- Protecting our Students in Schools Act of 2020

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Steps Against Corporal Punishment

-American Civil Liberties Union

- Ask for a copy of your school's discipline code and any policy that deals with corporal punishment.
- Engage with your community to raise awareness of the dangers of policies that permit the use of corporal punishment in schools.
- Approach the local superintendent and the school board to discuss corporal punishment.
- Become an advocate for alternative discipline systems.
- Find out if your school district permits parents to opt out of corporal punishment.
- Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper expressing your concerns.
- Read the discipline policy with your students.
- Contact your local elected officials and ask them to support a ban on corporal punishment.

Questions?

