A-Bill for an Act

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund, consisting of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. The moneys in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Human Services to:

(a) Facilitate training in crisis prevention, response and de-escalation in public programs;

(b) Provide grants or matching funds to support the certification of instructors in approved crisis response systems, to support programs training staff that interact with individuals served by public programs, to defray the reasonable costs of travel and materials and for stipends to reimburse staff for participating in the trainings; and

(c) Provide funding to the Department of Education to provide grants to school districts and education service districts through the Safe School Culture Grant program established in section 3 of this 2023 Act.

(2) The Department of Human Services may allocate up to three percent of the moneys in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund for costs of administering...
(3) The Department of Human Services may accept gifts, grants or contributions from any source, whether public or private, for deposit in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund.

SECTION 2. (1) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, the Department of Education shall transfer $4,000,000 to the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund established in section 1 of this 2023 Act to pay for the Safe School Culture Grant program established in section 3 of this 2023 Act.

(2) Unobligated moneys from the moneys transferred by the department under subsection (1) of this section that remain in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention and Safe Communities Fund at the end of a biennium shall be transferred to the Department of Education and deposited to the Department of Education Account established in ORS 326.115.

SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section, “certified instructor” means an individual who is certified as an instructor by the Crisis Prevention Institute’s Nonviolent Crisis Intervention program or by another program administered by a nationally recognized organization that provides training to certify individuals in nonviolent crisis intervention methods.

(2) The Safe School Culture Grant program is established in the Department of Education for the purpose of developing a network of certified instructors.

(3) Grants shall be distributed, in the manner prescribed by the department by rule, to districts based on the student population of the district, as provided in subsections (6) and (7) of this section, for the purpose of providing training sufficient to have at least one staff person for every 50 students who is certified in nonviolent crisis intervention methods. The rules shall, at a minimum:

(a) Provide reimbursement to school districts for wages or stipends paid to school district and education staff for the time spent attending training to become certified instructors, in a manner established by the department;

(b) Ensure districts and education service districts are only reimbursed for the costs related to individuals who complete the certification process as newly certified instructors; and

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this subsection, permit any unexpended moneys from grants to be used to support the costs of training staff in nonviolent crisis intervention methods by providing stipends and reimbursement for the cost of materials.

(4) To qualify for a grant, a school district must:

(a) Require each newly certified instructor to conduct at least three complete trainings of at least 10 district staff each year.

(b) Provide or arrange for the provision of the necessary physical space for the training.

(c) Consult with organizations representing teachers and instructional assistants, in determining the priority for which staff to train to ensure training is targeted to the areas in most need of support for increasing the safety of students and staff.

(d) Consult with organizations representing teachers and instructional assistants about compensation in wages, stipends or other means to support staff to participate in training to become certified instructors or to participate in training conducted by certified instructors to become certified in nonviolent crisis intervention methods.

(5) To qualify for a grant, an education service district must:

(a) Ensure at least one complete nonviolent crisis intervention training of at least 10
staff persons is completed each month at the verbal intervention level or the physical
intervention level, except that trainings for July and December may be offered in alternative
months.

   (b) Be responsible for providing or arranging for the physical space for the training.

   (c) Not charge a fee to a school district or a staff member for the first 10 staff persons
       trained by certified instructors each year.

   (d) Offer training in advanced physical skills only to individuals working in settings in
       which serious injuries have occurred or are at imminent risk of occurring.

(6) The department shall distribute funds through the Safe School Culture Grant program
to school districts participating in the program as follows:

   (a) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with 1,500 or fewer
       students for the cost of one new certified instructor. If the district pays for the cost of a
       second new certified instructor, the grant will pay the cost of a third new certified instruc-
       tor.

   (b) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with between 1,501 and
       5,000 students for the cost of two new certified instructors. If the district pays for the cost
       of a third new certified instructor, the grant will pay the cost of a fourth new certified in-
       structor.

   (c) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with between 5,001 and
       8,000 students for the cost of two new certified instructors. The grant will match the cost
       of each additional new certified instructor funded by the district, up to a total of four new
       certified instructors.

   (d) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with between 8,001 and
       15,000 students for the cost of four new certified instructors. The grant will match the cost
       of each additional new certified instructor funded by the district, up to a total of eight new
       certified instructors.

   (e) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with between 15,001 and
       30,000 students for the cost of six new certified instructors. The grant will match the cost
       of each additional new certified instructor, up to a total of 14 new certified instructors.

   (f) The department shall provide a grant to reimburse a district with more than 30,000
       students for the cost of six new certified instructors. The grant will match the cost of each
       additional new certified instructor, up to a total of 16 new certified instructors.

(7) The department shall distribute funds through the Safe School Culture Grant program
to education service districts for two new certified instructors in advanced physical skills
and one new certified instructor in verbal and physical intervention skills. The grant will
match the cost of each new additional certified instructor up to a maximum of four new
certified instructors in advanced physical skills and up to two new certified instructors in
verbal and physical intervention skills.

(8) The department may use up to three percent of the grant funds to cover the
department’s costs in administering the program.

SECTION 4. (1) As used in this section, “certified instructor” has the meaning given that
term in section 3 of this 2023 Act.

(2) A school district or education service district that participates in the Safe School
Culture Grant program established in section 3 of this 2023 Act shall submit the following
reports to the Department of Education on or before the specified dates:
(a) By December 1, 2023, and again by July 1, 2024, a report that includes:
   (A) The total number of new certified instructors that were certified between July 1,
       2023, and the date of the report, including the dates on which the certified instructors re-
       ceived their certifications.
   (B) A description of how the certified instructors are distributed across the district.
   (C) An accounting of how many of the new certified instructors were funded by the
       school district and how many were funded by the grant provided by the Safe School Culture
       Grant program.
   (D) The number of trainings held by each of the new certified instructors.
   (E) The number of staff that were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention methods by
       completing a training by one of the new certified instructors.

(b) By December 1, 2024, and again by July 1, 2025, each school district and education
    service district participating in the grant program shall report to the department:
   (A) The total number of staff who were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention meth-
       ods by completing a training with one of the new certified instructors.
   (B) The total number of staff who were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention meth-
       ods by completing a training in verbal skills only.
   (C) The total number of staff who were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention meth-
       ods by completing a training in verbal and physical intervention skills.
   (D) The total number of staff who were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention meth-
       ods by completing a training in advanced physical skills.
   (E) The total number of trainings held by each of the newly certified instructors between
       July 1, 2023, and the date of the trainings.
   (F) A description of how the staff who were certified in nonviolent crisis intervention
       methods by completing a training are distributed across the district, including the ratio of
       trained staff to students in the district.
   (G) A description of the district or education service district's assessment of whether and
       how many additional certified instructors, if any, are needed to certify staff in nonviolent
       crisis intervention methods.

SECTION 5. The Department of Education shall provide grants through the Safe School
Culture Grant program, established in section 3 of this 2023 Act, no later than July 1, 2024.

SECTION 6. Section 4 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2026.

SECTION 7. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
July 1, 2023.