



**LPRO**  
LEGISLATIVE POLICY  
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

# School Safety Programs

PREPARED FOR: Senate Education Committee

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RE: School Safety Programs

# Overview

1. School Safety Task
2. Current Policies and Laws
3. Grant Programs Available



# School Safety Task Force

# School Safety Task Force

- [House Bill 4087 \(2014\)](#) established the task force.
- The legislature directed the task force to study the following topics:
  - Efficacy standardized incident response
  - Creation of a school floor plan database
  - Creation of training programs for first responders and school administrators.



# School Safety Task Force Recommendations

In 2019, the task force finalized a [report](#) and made the following recommendations:

1. Establish a statewide tip line – [House Bill 2661 \(2015\)](#)
2. Standardize terminology – [House Bill 2661 \(2015\)](#)
3. Establish and fund a statewide assessment system – [House Bill 3427 \(2019\)](#)
4. Establish a school floorplan database



# School Safety Task Force

In 2021, [Senate Bill 225](#) expanded the responsibilities of the task force to include existing and emerging issues related to school safety and education training programs.

Senate Bill 225 also expanded the membership of the task force to include members from diverse and underrepresented communities.

The task force issued a final [report](#) and expired on December 31, 2023.



# Current Policies

# Recent Enacted Legislation

[House Bill 3584 \(2023\)](#) – Required schools and school districts to provide electronic communications to parents and guardians of students when a safety threat occurs.

[House Bill 5014 \(2023\)](#) – Created the wireless panic alarm grant program.

[House Bill 3083 \(2025\)](#) – Wireless school panic alarm systems, which required school districts to consider installing a wireless panic alarm system within each school.

[House Bill 3038 \(2025\)](#) Section 13 – Modified terms to standardized emergency procedure terminology.



# School Safety Specialists

- Created in [House Bill 3427 \(2019\)](#)
- Specialists serve in the 19 Education Service districts to handle
  - behavioral safety assessments
  - suicide prevention, intervention and postvention
  - bullying harassment, Intimidation, sexual violence and cyber bullying



# School Resource Officers

- Not defined in statute
- Limited statutory and regulatory language found for school resource officers
- Local school boards decide policies



# Grant Programs

# Federal Grant Programs

- Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grants
- School Violence Prevention Grants
- COPS Hiring Grants
- Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Source: [SchoolSafety.gov](https://www.schoolsafety.gov)



# State Grant Programs

- School Safety and Emergency Management
- Youth Grant Funds
  - Juvenile Crime Prevention
  - Youth and Community
  - Community Schools
  - Gang Prevention and Intervention



# Questions?

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