By Senator Cruz

18-00284A-20 2020304

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school safety funding; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; specifying distribution requirements for certain safe schools allocation funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year; requiring each district school superintendent to remit specified unused funds from the 2019-2020 fiscal year to the Department of Education; authorizing the department, upon request, to redistribute such funds to certain school districts for a specified purpose; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (15) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

(15) SAFE SCHOOLS ALLOCATION.—A safe schools allocation is created to provide funding to assist school districts in their compliance with ss. 1006.07-1006.12, with priority given to safe-school officers pursuant to s. 1006.12. From the total appropriated to the safe schools allocation, each school district shall receive a minimum safe schools allocation as specified in an amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. Of the remaining balance of the safe schools allocation,

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one-third shall be allocated to school districts based on the most recent official Florida Crime Index provided by the Department of Law Enforcement and two-thirds shall be allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment. Each school district must report to the Department of Education by October 15 that all public schools within the school district have completed the school security risk assessment using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed pursuant to s. 1006.1493. If a district school board is required by s. 1006.12 to assign a school resource officer or school safety officer to a charter school, the charter school's share of costs for such officer may not exceed the amount of funds allocated to the charter school under this subsection. Any funds appropriated to this allocation in the 2020-2021 fiscal year for the school resource officer program established pursuant to s. 1006.12 shall be used exclusively for employing or contracting for additional school resource officers and shall be distributed among all school districts, regardless of whether the school district chooses to participate in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program. The funding shall be distributed to the school districts based on each school district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment.

Section 2. Each district school superintendent shall remit to the Department of Education any funds from the 2019-2020 fiscal year which were appropriated to the district for participation in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program established pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k), Florida Statutes, and

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which remain unused as of July 1, 2020. Upon the request of the sheriff of the county in which a school district is located, the department may redistribute such funds to any school district that has not previously participated in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program for the purpose of implementing school safety programs in accordance with s. 1006.07, Florida Statutes.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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