Florida Senate - 2000

By Senator Dyer

	14-1-00
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to school safety; providing
3	legislative intent; creating the Safe and
4	Secure Schools Commission for the purpose of
5	ensuring a safe environment in the public
6	schools; providing duties of the commission;
7	requiring that the commission prepare reports
8	and make recommendations to the Legislature;
9	providing for the membership of the commission;
10	providing for terms of office; providing for
11	per diem and travel expenses; requiring each
12	district school board to appoint a district
13	coordinator of school safety and security;
14	providing duties of the district coordinator;
15	requiring that the district coordinator
16	maintain records and conduct onsite school
17	visits; providing for certain school districts
18	to employ a regional coordinator of school
19	safety and security; requiring that the
20	Department of Education create a uniform
21	incident-reporting system for the state;
22	providing legislative intent; specifying the
23	offenses and incidents occurring on school
24	property which must be reported to the
25	Department of Education and the Safe and Secure
26	Schools Commission; requiring the reporting of
27	additional disciplinary incidents; requiring
28	that an arrest of a student or staff member be
29	reported to the principal; providing for the
30	collection and dissemination of school safety
31	data; amending s. 230.2316, F.S.; providing
	1

1	additional eligibility criteria under which a
2	student may receive services funded through the
3	dropout prevention and academic intervention
4	program; amending ss. 230.23175, 230.2318,
5	F.S.; providing for the district coordinator of
6	school safety and security to coordinate the
7	duties of school safety officers and school
8	resource officers; amending s. 230.23185, F.S.;
9	providing for telephone calls to be received
10	anonymously by a school safety hotline;
11	amending s. 231.17, F.S.; providing an
12	additional minimum competency for teacher
13	certification; amending s. 231.24, F.S.;
14	providing for training in crisis management for
15	renewal of teacher certification; amending s.
16	232.26, F.S.; requiring that student
17	suspensions be reported to the district
18	coordinator of school safety and security;
19	requiring that a principal notify the parent or
20	guardian of a suspended student of laws
21	governing the storage of firearms following a
22	student's suspension; requiring the supervision
23	or alternative placement of a student under
24	certain circumstances; amending s. 232.39,
25	F.S.; prohibiting criminal street gangs whose
26	membership includes public school students;
27	requiring that a school principal notify law
28	enforcement officials and the district
29	coordinator of school safety and security
30	whenever certain prohibited acts occur;
31	amending ss. 235.0155, 235.19, F.S.; providing
	2

1	for the Safe and Secure Schools Commission and
2	the district coordinator of school safety and
3	security to assist in developing plans for
4	educational sites and facilities; amending s.
5	235.211, F.S.; providing requirements for
6	design plans for school facilities developed
7	after a specified date; amending s. 790.169,
8	F.S.; requiring that a law enforcement agency
9	release the name of certain juvenile offenders
10	to district school personnel; amending s.
11	790.17, F.S.; prohibiting a minor's parent or
12	guardian from permitting the sale or transfer
13	of a firearm to the minor if the minor has been
14	convicted of, or has had adjudication withheld
15	for, certain offenses; amending s. 790.174,
16	F.S.; increasing the penalty imposed for the
17	unsafe storage of a firearm that is accessible
18	to a minor; amending s. 874.05, F.S.; providing
19	that it is a second-degree felony to recruit a
20	public school student to join a criminal street
21	gang or commit certain other acts while on
22	school property; providing an effective date.
23	
24	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
25	
26	Section 1. Legislative intentIt is the intent of
27	the Legislature that the state's public school students and
28	staff members be secure whenever they are on school premises
29	for school-sanctioned programs, events, or activities. To this
30	end, the state shall implement preventative and interventional
31	measures to ensure the safety and well-being of persons on
	3

1 public school campuses by creating a uniform system of safety and security. This uniform system is intended to promote 2 3 shared knowledge concerning the prevention of crime, delinquency, disruptive behavior, and other emergencies in 4 5 schools; require accountability and responsibility in б implementing school safety measures; and provide a physical 7 atmosphere that is conducive to successful learning in the 8 state's public schools. Section 2. The Safe and Secure Schools 9 10 Commission.--The Safe and Secure Schools Commission is created 11 for the purpose of ensuring that the state is progressing towards providing the safest, most secure environment for 12 children, teachers, and staff in the public schools. 13 (1)(a) The commission shall review programs in school 14 districts throughout the state which relate to school safety, 15 security, and discipline, and shall make recommendations to 16 17 school districts, the Department of Education, and the Legislature for ensuring that districts are implementing 18 19 programs and policies that lessen the incidents of criminality and disruption on school campuses. The commission shall: 20 21 1. Conduct onsite visits of individual school districts and schools in order to evaluate the effectiveness 22 of the safety measures employed by the schools and the 23 24 districts. 2. Review financial records as necessary to determine 25 26 if moneys designated for school safety programs are being 27 spent effectively and as intended. 28 (b) The commission may recommend that the Office of 29 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability perform 30 an onsite visit, conduct an audit, or contract with a public 31 or private entity that has appropriate experience and training 4

1 in determining the effectiveness of safety measures employed 2 by schools and school districts. 3 (2)(a) The commission shall research and prepare a comprehensive report on successful crime prevention, 4 5 intervention, and management practices for public schools. To б the extent possible, the report must detail: 7 Successful programs employed by schools within the 1. 8 nation and the state. 9 2. The reasons for the success and failure of various 10 programs. 11 3. The general profiles of schools that implement 12 successful programs. The cost factors associated with implementing 13 4. 14 individual programs. The commission shall research and prepare a report 15 (b) on the training needs of school principals and instructional 16 staff with respect to incident reporting, aggressive-behavior 17 prevention, emergency management, intervention, and other 18 19 areas determined appropriate by the commission. The commission shall use information gathered for 20 (3) the report as the basis for recommendations, as necessary, to 21 school districts and schools as to how to improve school 22 safety and security. Schools and school districts are 23 encouraged to request site visits and program recommendations 24 25 from the commission or its representatives at any mutually agreed-upon time. 26 27 The commission shall, by January 1, 2002, make (4) recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker 28 29 of the House of Representatives for implementing a system of 30 performance-based funding measures and incentives to be used 31

1 in determining funding to enhance safety, discipline, and security programs in public schools. 2 3 (5) The commission shall consist of the following 4 members: 5 Three educators who are not members of a school (a) б board, to be appointed as follows: One member appointed by the Governor from a school 7 1. 8 district of more than 100,000 students. 9 One member appointed by the President of the Senate 2. 10 from a school district of 35,001 to 99,999 students. 11 One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of 3. Representatives from a school district of not more than 35,000 12 13 students. (b) Three members who have backgrounds in law 14 enforcement or security, to be appointed as follows: 15 One member appointed by the executive director of 16 1. 17 the Department of Law Enforcement. One member appointed by the President of the 18 2. 19 Senate. 20 3. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of 21 Representatives. 22 The president of the Parent-Teacher Association of (C) Florida, or his or her designee, who must be a member of the 23 24 association. 25 (d) The coordinator of the Safe Schools Program for 26 the Department of Education. 27 (e) An official of the Department of Education, 28 designated by the Commissioner of Education. 29 The division director of the criminal-street-gangs (f) 30 section of the Department of Law Enforcement, or his or her 31 designee.

1	(g) The president of the Florida Association of School
2	Psychologists, or his or her designee, who must be a member of
3	the association.
4	(6) Members appointed by the Governor, the President
5	of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
6	shall be appointed to terms of 4 years each. However, the
7	initial appointments shall be for staggered terms of office.
8	(a) Any vacancy on the commission shall be filled in
9	the same manner as the original appointment, and any member
10	appointed to fill a vacancy occurring because of death,
11	resignation, or ineligibility for membership shall serve only
12	for the unexpired term of the member's predecessor. A member
13	is eligible for reappointment.
14	(b) Members of the commission shall serve without
15	compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem
16	and travel expenses as provided in section 112.061, Florida
17	Statutes.
18	(c) The commission shall designate a chairperson from
19	among its members. The commission shall meet at least
20	quarterly or upon the call of the chairperson.
21	Section 3. District coordinators of school safety and
22	security
23	(1) Subject to legislative appropriation, each
24	district school board shall appoint a district coordinator of
25	school safety and security. To the extent possible, a
26	coordinator must have prior experience as a law enforcement
27	officer, as defined in section 943.10, Florida Statutes.
28	(2)(a) The coordinator shall oversee and maintain all
29	district programs that relate to student and staff safety and
30	security whenever students or staff are on school district
31	property for school purposes or activities. To that end, the
	7

1 coordinator may recommend school safety programs and security measures to be approved by the district school board. 2 3 (b) The coordinator shall coordinate programs with officials of the United States Department of Education; the 4 5 state Department of Education; and other commissions, local б law enforcement agencies, and entities as necessary and as 7 approved by the district school board to ensure the safety and 8 security of district students and personnel. Specifically, coordinators and local law enforcement agencies shall create, 9 10 and the school boards shall approve, contingency plans to be 11 implemented if an emergency or crisis situation arises on any school campus within the district and within any particular 12 agency's jurisdiction. 13 (c) The coordinator shall maintain district records of 14 incidents of crime, violence, or other reportable actions on 15 district property and school campuses. In addition, the 16 17 coordinator shall maintain records of off-campus offenses that involve students enrolled in the district's public schools. 18 19 (d) The coordinator shall conduct onsite visits to 20 schools within the district to ensure that district safety and 21 security measures approved by the school board are being 22 implemented. 23 (e) The coordinator shall coordinate the efforts of school safety officers, as defined in section 230.23175, 24 Florida Statutes, and school resource officers, as defined in 25 section 230.2318, Florida Statutes, as specified by the 26 27 district school board and in consultation with school principals in order to aid in providing a uniform system of 28 29 district safety and security. 30 The coordinator shall make recommendations to the (f) 31 school superintendent on training school principals in 8

1 reporting incidents and other training as is necessary to successfully implement the school safety program. 2 3 (g) At the request of the district school board, the 4 coordinator shall make recommendations with respect to any 5 purchase of real property to be used for a school campus or б with respect to the design of a school to be constructed, 7 renovated, or remodeled within the district. 8 (3) School districts with fewer than 35,000 students 9 which are located in contiguous counties may, pursuant to 10 agreement, employ a regional coordinator of school safety and 11 security. The combined student population of school districts that enter into an agreement as provided under this subsection 12 may not exceed 150,000 students. 13 Section 4. Uniform incident-reporting system.--14 15 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--The Department of Education, in consultation with the Safe and Secure Schools Commission 16 17 and the Department of Juvenile Justice, shall create a uniform incident-reporting system for the state. The Legislature 18 19 intends that this system of reporting allow information to be obtained as quickly as possible by all school districts and 20 the department. In addition, the Legislature intends that this 21 system of reporting include all acts of criminality, disorder, 22 and disciplinary actions on school campuses, including those 23 24 that involve nonstudents. 25 (2) REPORTABLE INCIDENTS.--Each school principal shall report to the district school board the following incidents of 26 27 crime, delinquency, disorder, or disruption which occur on the grounds of a public school, and the district school board 28 29 shall forward each report to the Department of Education and the Safe and Secure Schools Commission: 30 31

1	(a) Alcohol possessionA violation of laws or
2	ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase,
3	transportation, possession, or use of intoxicating alcoholic
4	beverages. Such a violation includes being intoxicated at
5	school, at a school-sponsored event, or while riding a school
б	transportation vehicle. Use of alcohol must be reported only
7	if a student is caught in the act of using alcohol, is tested,
8	and is found to be using alcohol by a law enforcement officer
9	or is discovered to have used alcohol during the course of an
10	investigation. This paragraph does not require that students
11	be tested for alcohol use, and a school need not report the
12	suspicion of alcohol use.
13	(b) ArsonThe offense of arson, which includes
14	willfully and unlawfully, or while in the commission of any
15	felony, damaging by fire or explosion any:
16	1. Dwelling whether occupied or not, or its contents;
17	2. Structure, or contents thereof, where persons are
18	normally present; or
19	3. Other structure that the person knew or had
20	reasonable grounds to believe was occupied by a human being.
21	(c) BatteryThe offense of battery, which is the
22	actual and intentional touching or striking of another person
23	against his or her will or intentionally causing bodily harm
24	to an individual. This offense includes a physical attack by
25	one individual against another individual, an attack with a
26	weapon that causes serious bodily harm to the victim, or the
27	actual placement of a bomb or the sending of a bomb through
28	the mail, regardless of whether the bomb detonates.
29	(d) Disorderly conductThe offense of disorderly
30	conduct, which is any act that substantially disrupts the
31	orderly conduct of a school function; behavior that
	10

10

1 substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment; or conduct that poses a threat to the health, safety, or welfare 2 3 of students, staff, or others. If the action results in a more serious offense being committed, the more serious offense must 4 5 also be reported. б (e) Drug possession. -- A violation of laws relating to 7 drug possession, excluding alcohol offenses, which includes 8 the unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of 9 10 any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or of equipment or 11 a device used for preparing or taking drugs or narcotics. Such a violation includes being under the influence of drugs at 12 school, at a school-sponsored event, or while riding a school 13 transportation vehicle. Use of drugs shall be reported only if 14 a student is caught in the act of using drugs, is tested, and 15 is found to be using drugs by a law enforcement officer or is 16 17 discovered to have used drugs during the course of an investigation. This paragraph does not require that students 18 19 be tested for drug use, and a school need not report the suspicion of drug use. An over-the-counter medication shall be 20 considered a drug under this paragraph if the medication is 21 misused by the student. The use of tobacco is not a drug 22 offense under this paragraph. 23 24 (f) Fighting.--The offense of fighting, which includes 25 mutual participation in a fight that involves physical violence, involves more than one offender, and does not result 26 in major injury. An offense under this paragraph does not 27 28 include a verbal confrontation, tussles, or other minor 29 confrontations. 30 (g) Homicide. -- The offense of homicide, which includes murder; the unlawful killing of a human being; and 31

11

1 manslaughter, which is the killing of a human being by the act of procurement or culpable negligence of another without 2 3 lawful justification. (h) Kidnapping.--The offense of kidnapping, which 4 5 includes forcibly, secretly, or by threat confining, б abducting, or imprisoning another person against his or her 7 will and without lawful authority, with intent to: 8 1. Hold for ransom or reward or as a shield or hostage; 9 10 2. Commit or facilitate commission of any felony; 11 3. Inflict bodily harm upon or to terrorize the victim 12 or another person; or Interfere with the performance of any governmental 13 4. 14 or political function. Motor vehicle theft. -- The offense of motor vehicle 15 (i) theft, which is the theft or attempted theft of a motor 16 17 vehicle. (j) Robbery.--The offense of robbery, which is the 18 19 taking or attempting to take anything of value which is owned by another person or organization, under confrontational 20 21 circumstances, by force or violence or threat of force or violence, or by putting the victim in fear. The offense of 22 robbery involves battery or a threat of battery. 23 24 (k) Larceny or theft.--The offense of larceny or 25 theft, which is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property of another person without threat, 26 27 violence, or bodily harm. The offense includes pocket picking; purse or backpack snatching, if the item taken is left 28 29 unattended or no force is used to take the item from the owner; theft of accessories; theft of bicycles; theft from a 30 31 machine or device that is operated or activated by the use of

12

1 a coin or token; and all other types of larcenies. This offense includes the theft of items such as a car stereo, 2 3 speakers, or hub caps. Sexual battery.--The offense of sexual battery, 4 (1) 5 which includes oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by, or union б with, the sexual organ of another or the anal or vaginal 7 penetration of another by any other object. 8 Sexual harassment.--The offense of sexual (m) harassment, which is: 9 10 1. Discriminating against a student in any course or 11 program of study in any school, in evaluating academic achievement, or in providing benefits, privileges, and 12 placement services on the basis of that student's submission 13 to or rejection of sexual advances or requests for sexual 14 favors by administrators, staff, teachers, students, or other 15 school board employees. 16 2. Creating or allowing to exist an atmosphere of 17 sexual harassment, consisting of deliberate, repeated, and 18 19 unsolicited physical actions, gestures, or verbal or written comments of a sexual nature, when such conduct has the purpose 20 or effect of interfering with a student's academic performance 21 or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning 22 environment. 23 24 (n) Sexual offenses.--Sexual offenses, which offenses include sexual intercourse; sexual conduct; other unlawful 25 behavior or conduct intended to result in sexual gratification 26 27 without force or threat of force and where the victim is 28 capable of giving consent; and indecent exposure and 29 obscenity. 30 (o) Threats or intimidation.--The use of verbal 31 threats or intimidation that unlawfully place another person 13

1 in fear of bodily harm, without displaying a weapon or subjecting the person to actual physical attack. 2 3 (p) Tobacco use.--The use of tobacco, which includes use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products on school 4 5 grounds, at school-sponsored events, or while riding a school б transportation vehicle. 7 (q) Trespassing.--The offense of trespassing, 8 consisting of entering or remaining on a public school campus 9 or school board facility without authorization or invitation 10 and with no lawful purpose for entry, including trespassing by 11 a student under suspension or expulsion or by an unauthorized person who enters or remains on campus or within a school 12 board facility after being directed to leave by the chief 13 14 administrator, or his or her designee, of the facility, 15 campus, or function. (r) Vandalism.--The offense of vandalism, which is the 16 willful or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of 17 public or private property, real or personal, without the 18 19 consent of the owner or the person who has custody or control 20 of the property. This offense includes the marking of 21 graffiti. 22 (s) Weapons possession. -- The offense of weapons possession, which includes the possession of: 23 24 1. A firearm, as defined in section 921 of Title 18 of 25 the United States Code, which will, is designed to, or may 26 readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an 27 explosive. 28 2. Firearm components or attachments, or any 29 combination of parts, designed or intended for use in 30 converting any device into a destructive device that expels a projectile or an explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, and 31 14

1 from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. This includes the frame or receiver of any weapon designed to be 2 3 converted to expel a projectile or any firearm muffler or 4 silencer. 5 3. An explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including б any chemical compound or mixture that has the property of 7 yielding readily to combustion or oxidation upon application 8 of heat, flame, or shock, including, but not limited to, dynamite, nitroglycerin, trinitrotoluene, ammonium nitrate 9 10 when combined with other ingredients to form an explosive 11 mixture, blasting caps, or detonators. 4. Any other weapon used or intended to be used as an 12 instrument or object to inflict harm on another person, or to 13 14 intimidate any person. (t) Unauthorized organization of secret 15 societies.--The establishment of or membership in any 16 17 organization, fraternity, sorority, or gang, as prohibited under section 232.39 or section 232.40, Florida Statutes. A 18 19 secret society includes any group that is not officially recognized by school authorities or any group whose membership 20 is exclusionary. 21 1. A school principal need not be able to document all 22 members of an unauthorized secret society for purposes of 23 24 reporting under this section. 25 2. If a principal determines that one or more members of an unauthorized secret society are or have been in 26 27 violation of one or more of the reportable offenses cited in 28 this subsection, the principal shall contact appropriate local 29 law enforcement authorities. 30 (3) DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.--Each school district 31 shall require each principal in grades kindergarten through 12

15

1 within its jurisdiction to document all incidents of crime, delinquency, disorder, or disruption that occur on public 2 3 school grounds or that involve a public school student or district staff member. In addition to the offenses listed in 4 5 subsection (2), each school principal shall document: 6 (a) Incidents for which a student is referred for 7 disciplinary action; 8 (b) Criminal incidents that are instigated by 9 nonstudents or nonstaff persons on school property; and 10 (C) Incidents that the district is required to report 11 to a law enforcement agency under section 230.235, Florida 12 Statutes. 13 (4) REPORTS OF ARRESTS. -- Subject to mutual agreement between each school district and the county sheriff's office 14 or local police department and to the extent possible, any 15 arrest of a public school student or a district staff member 16 17 which occurs outside of school property shall be reported to the principal of the school where the student is enrolled or 18 19 where the staff member is employed by the law enforcement agency that makes the arrest. The principal shall document all 20 such reports of arrests. 21 (5) REPORTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS.--Each school 22 principal shall report all documented incidents to the 23 24 appropriate school district personnel responsible for collecting and disseminating school safety data. 25 Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 26 27 230.2316, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 28 230.2316 Dropout prevention.--29 (3) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY AND PROGRAM CRITERIA.--(c) A student shall be identified as being eligible to 30 31 receive services funded through the dropout prevention and 16

1 academic intervention program based upon one of the following 2 criteria: 3 1. The student is academically unsuccessful as evidenced by low test scores, retention, failing grades, low 4 5 grade point average, falling behind in earning credits, or not б meeting the state or district proficiency levels in reading, 7 mathematics, or writing. 8 2. The student has a pattern of excessive absenteeism or has been identified as a habitual truant. 9 10 3. The student has a history of disruptive behavior in 11 school or has committed an offense that warrants out-of-school suspension or expulsion from school according to the district 12 13 code of student conduct. For the purposes of this program, "disruptive behavior" is behavior that: 14 a. Interferes with the student's own learning or the 15 educational process of others and requires attention and 16 17 assistance beyond that which the traditional program can 18 provide or results in frequent conflicts of a disruptive 19 nature while the student is under the jurisdiction of the school either in or out of the classroom; or 20 Severely threatens the general welfare of students 21 b. or others with whom the student comes into contact. 22 The student is the child of a custodial or 23 4. 24 noncustodial parent or legal guardian who is currently 25 incarcerated or has been determined to be a habitual felony offender or a violent career criminal, as defined in s. 26 27 775.084. 28 Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 230.23175, 29 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 30 230.23175 School safety officers.--31

17

(2) A district school board may commission one or more
school safety officers for the protection and safety of school
personnel, property, and students within the school district.
The district school superintendent may recommend and the
school board may appoint one or more school safety officers.
The duties of the school safety officer shall be coordinated
by the school principal and the district coordinator of school
safety and security.
Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
230.2318, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
230.2318 School resource officer program
(2) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER CERTIFICATION; DUTIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES
(b) School resource officers shall abide by school
board policies and shall consult with and coordinate
activities through the school principal and the district
coordinator of school safety and security, but shall be
responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters
relating to employment, subject to agreements between a school
board and a law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by
the school resource officer which are part of the regular
instructional program of the school shall be under the
direction of the principal.
Section 8. Subsections (2) and (4) of section
230.23185, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
230.23185 Statewide crime watch program
(2) A toll-free school safety hotline may be created
and maintained to provide an avenue for students to report
criminal activity, such as violations of the code of student
conduct, and to enhance the safety and welfare of students,
faculty and staff A nameon the magnitude solls made to the
faculty, and staff. A person who receives calls made to the

1 school safety hotline shall be anonymous and may not identify the organization or agency that is responsible for receiving 2 3 the calls, except that the caller may be notified that the organization or agency receiving the call is not a law 4 5 enforcement agency if that is in fact the case. б (4)(a) The department may contract with the Florida 7 Sheriffs Association to establish and operate a statewide 8 toll-free school safety hotline for the purpose of reporting incidents that affect the safety and well-being of the 9 10 school's population. 11 (b) The toll-free school safety hotline is to be a conduit for any person to anonymously report activity that 12 affects the safety and well-being of the school's population. 13 14 A person who receives calls made to the school safety hotline 15 shall be anonymous and may not identify the organization or agency that is responsible for receiving the calls, except 16 17 that the caller may be notified that the organization or agency receiving the call is not a law enforcement agency if 18 19 that is in fact the case. 20 (c) There may not be an award or monetary benefit for 21 reporting an incident through the toll-free school safety hotline. 22 23 (d) The toll-free school safety hotline shall be 24 operated in a manner that ensures that a designated school official is notified of a complaint received through the 25 hotline if the complaint concerns that school. A complaint 26 27 that concerns an actionable offense must be reported to the 28 designated official within a reasonable time after the 29 complaint is made. An actionable offense is an incident that 30 could directly affect the safety or well-being of a person or 31 property within a school.

Florida Senate - 2000 14-1-00

1	(e) If a toll-free school safety hotline is
2	established by contract with the Florida Sheriffs Association,
3	the Florida Sheriffs Association shall produce a quarterly
4	report that evaluates the incidents that have been reported to
5	the hotline. This report must be forwarded to the district
6	coordinator of school security and information may be used to
7	evaluate future school safety educational needs and the need
8	for prevention programs as the school board considers
9	necessary.
10	Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section
11	231.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
12	231.17 Official statements of eligibility and
13	certificates granted on application to those meeting
14	prescribed requirements
15	(5) MINIMUM COMPETENCIES FOR PROFESSIONAL
16	CERTIFICATE
17	(a) The state board must specify, by rule, the minimum
18	essential competencies that educators must possess and
19	demonstrate in order to qualify to teach students the
20	standards of student performance adopted by the state board.
21	The minimum competencies must include but are not limited to
22	the ability to:
23	1. Write in a logical and understandable style with
24	appropriate grammar and sentence structure.
25	2. Read, comprehend, and interpret professional and
26	other written material.
27	3. Comprehend and work with mathematical concepts,
28	including algebra.
29	4. Recognize the potential of and intervene in
30	disciplinary, disruptive, or crisis situations. This
31	
	20

1 subparagraph applies to all applicants seeking certification
2 after September 1, 2000.

3 <u>5.4.</u> Recognize signs of students' difficulty with the 4 reading process and apply appropriate measures to improve 5 students' reading performance.

6 <u>6.5</u>. Recognize signs of severe emotional distress in
7 students and apply techniques of crisis intervention with an
8 emphasis on suicide prevention and positive emotional
9 development.

10 <u>7.6.</u> Recognize signs of alcohol and drug abuse in 11 students and know how to appropriately work with such students 12 and seek assistance designed to prevent future abuse.

13 <u>8.7</u>. Recognize the physical and behavioral indicators 14 of child abuse and neglect, know rights and responsibilities 15 regarding reporting, know how to care for a child's needs 16 after a report is made, and know recognition, intervention, 17 and prevention strategies pertaining to child abuse and 18 neglect which can be related to children in a classroom 19 setting in a nonthreatening, positive manner.

20 <u>9.8</u>. Comprehend patterns of physical, social, and 21 academic development in students, including exceptional 22 students in the regular classroom, and counsel these students 23 concerning their needs in these areas.

24 <u>10.9.</u> Recognize and be aware of the instructional 25 needs of exceptional students.

26 <u>11.10.</u> Comprehend patterns of normal development in 27 students and employ appropriate intervention strategies for 28 disorders of development.

29 <u>12.11.</u> Identify and comprehend the codes and standards 30 of professional ethics, performance, and practices adopted 31 pursuant to s. 231.546(2)(b), the grounds for disciplinary

21

1 action provided by s. 231.28, and the procedures for resolving 2 complaints filed pursuant to this chapter, including appeal 3 processes. 4 13.12. Recognize and demonstrate awareness of the 5 educational needs of students who have limited proficiency in б English and employ appropriate teaching strategies. 14.13. Use and integrate appropriate technology in 7 8 teaching and learning processes and in managing, evaluating, 9 and improving instruction. 10 15.14. Use assessment and other diagnostic strategies 11 to assist the continuous development of the learner. 16.15. Use teaching and learning strategies that 12 include considering each student's culture, learning styles, 13 special needs, and socioeconomic background. 14 17.16. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the 15 subject matter that is aligned with the subject knowledge and 16 17 skills specified in the Sunshine State Standards and student 18 performance standards approved by the state board. 19 18.17. Recognize the early signs of truancy in 20 students and identify effective interventions to avoid or 21 resolve nonattendance behavior. 19.18. Demonstrate knowledge and skill in managing 22 student behavior inside and outside the classroom. Such 23 24 knowledge and skill must include techniques for preventing and 25 effectively responding to incidents of disruptive or violent behavior. 26 27 20.19. Demonstrate knowledge of and skill in 28 developing and administering appropriate classroom assessment 29 instruments designed to measure student learning gains. 30 31 22

1 21.20. Demonstrate the ability to maintain a positive 2 collaborative relationship with students' families to increase 3 student achievement. Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 4 5 231.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: б 231.24 Process for renewal of professional 7 certificates.--8 (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the 9 following requirements must be met: 10 (a) The applicant must earn a minimum of 6 college 11 credits or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof. For each area of specialization to be retained on a certificate, 12 the applicant must earn at least 3 of the required credit 13 hours or equivalent inservice points in the specialization 14 area. Education in "clinical educator" training pursuant to s. 15 240.529(5)(b) and credits or points that provide training in 16 17 the area of exceptional student education, normal child development, and the disorders of development may be applied 18 19 toward any specialization area. Credits or points that provide 20 training in the areas of the prevention of drug abuse, child abuse, and neglect; strategies in teaching students having 21 limited proficiency in English; , or dropout prevention; or the 22 management of crisis situations, or training in areas 23 24 identified in the educational goals and performance standards 25 adopted pursuant to ss. 229.591(3) and 229.592, may be applied toward any specialization area. Applicants are highly 26 27 encouraged to earn credits or points in these areas, and a 28 school principal or supervisor must earn at least one credit, 29 or the equivalent points, in at least one of these areas. 30 Credits or points earned through approved summer institutes 31 may be applied toward the fulfillment of these requirements.

23

1 Inservice points may also be earned by participation in 2 professional growth components approved by the State Board of 3 Education and specified pursuant to s. 236.0811 in the district's approved master plan for inservice educational 4 5 training, including, but not limited to, serving as a trainer б in an approved teacher training activity, serving on an 7 instructional materials committee or a state board or 8 commission that deals with educational issues, or serving on 9 an advisory council created pursuant to s. 229.58.

Section 11. Section 232.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

12

232.26 Authority of principal.--

13 (1)(a) Subject to law and to the rules of the state board and the district school board, the principal in charge 14 of the school or the principal's designee shall develop 15 policies for delegating to any teacher or other member of the 16 17 instructional staff or to any bus driver transporting students of the school responsibility for the control and direction of 18 19 students. The principal or the principal's designee shall 20 consider the recommendation for discipline made by a teacher, 21 other member of the instructional staff, or a bus driver when making a decision regarding student referral for discipline. 22

(b) The principal or the principal's designee may 23 24 suspend a student only in accordance with the rules of the 25 district school board. The principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to immediately inform 26 a student's parent or quardian by telephone of a student's 27 28 suspension and the reasons for the suspension. Each suspension 29 and the reasons for the suspension shall be reported in writing within 24 hours to the student's parent or guardian by 30 31 United States mail. Each suspension and the reasons for the

24

1 suspension shall also be reported in writing within 24 hours to the superintendent and the district coordinator of school 2 3 safety and security. A good-faith good faith effort shall be made by the principal or the principal's designee to employ 4 5 parental assistance or other alternative measures prior to б suspension, except in the case of emergency or disruptive 7 conditions which require immediate suspension or in the case 8 of a serious breach of conduct as defined by rules of the district school board. Such rules shall require oral and 9 written notice to the student of the charges and an 10 11 explanation of the evidence against him or her prior to the suspension. Each student shall be given an opportunity to 12 present his or her side of the story. No student shall be 13 suspended for unexcused tardiness, lateness, absence, or 14 truancy. The principal or the principal's designee may suspend 15 any student transported to or from school at the public 16 17 expense from the privilege of riding on a school bus for violation of school board transportation policies, which shall 18 19 include a policy regarding behavior at school bus stops, and 20 the principal or the principal's designee shall give notice in 21 writing to the student's parent or guardian and to the superintendent within 24 hours. School personnel shall not be 22 held legally responsible for suspensions of students made in 23 24 good faith. 25 1. When a student is suspended, the principal must request, both verbally and in the written notification to the 26 27 parent or guardian, that the parent or guardian inform the principal if firearms or other instruments for which the 28 29 primary purpose is use as a weapon are available to the

- 30 student. The parent or guardian must, to the best of his or
- 31 her ability, make an accurate accounting of any such firearms

25

1 or weapons within the student's residence or any other place 2 over which the parent or quardian exercises control or 3 ownership. 4 2. If the parent or guardian informs the principal 5 that firearms or weapons are available to the student, the б principal must inform the parent or guardian of laws related 7 to the storage of firearms under ss. 784.05 and 790.174, and 8 may recommend that other weapons available to the student be 9 properly stored. 10 3. If a student is suspended for any violent conduct 11 against another student or against school personnel, or if a student threatens any act of violence against another student 12 or against school personnel, the student's parent or guardian 13 14 and the principal shall determine an appropriate means for the parent or guardian to supervise the student or shall arrange 15 an alternative placement for the student, as provided by the 16 school district, for the duration of the suspension or for a 17 18 period determined by the principal. 19 (c) The principal or the principal's designee may 20 recommend to the superintendent the expulsion of any student 21 who has committed a serious breach of conduct, including, but not limited to, willful disobedience, open defiance of 22 authority of a member of his or her staff, violence against 23 24 persons or property, or any other act which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of the school. A recommendation 25 of expulsion or assignment to a second chance school may also 26 27 be made for any student found to have intentionally made false 28 accusations that jeopardize the professional reputation, 29 employment, or professional certification of a teacher or other member of the school staff, according to the school 30 31 district code of student conduct. Any recommendation of

26

expulsion shall include a detailed report by the principal or
 the principal's designated representative on the alternative
 measures taken prior to the recommendation of expulsion.

4 (d) The principal or the principal's designee shall
5 include an analysis of suspensions and expulsions in the
6 annual report of school progress.

7 (2) Suspension proceedings, pursuant to rules of the 8 State Board of Education, may be initiated against any pupil 9 enrolled as a student who is formally charged with a felony, 10 or with a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed 11 by an adult, by a proper prosecuting attorney for an incident which allegedly occurred on property other than public school 12 property, if that incident is shown, in an administrative 13 hearing with notice provided to the parents or legal guardian 14 or custodian of such pupil by the principal of the school 15 pursuant to rules adopted promulgated by the State Board of 16 17 Education and to rules developed pursuant to s. 231.085, to 18 have an adverse impact on the educational program, discipline, 19 or welfare in the school in which the student is enrolled. Any 20 pupil who is suspended as the result of such proceedings may 21 be suspended from all classes of instruction on public school grounds during regular classroom hours for a period of time, 22 which may exceed 10 days, as determined by the superintendent. 23 24 Such suspension shall not affect the delivery of educational services to the pupil, and the pupil shall be immediately 25 enrolled in a daytime alternative education program, or an 26 evening alternative education program, where appropriate. If 27 28 the court determines that the pupil did commit the felony or 29 delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by an adult, the school board shall have the authority to expel 30 31 the student, provided that expulsion under this subsection

27

1 shall not affect the delivery of educational services to the pupil in any residential, nonresidential, alternative, 2 3 daytime, or evening program outside of the regular school 4 setting. Any pupil who is subject to discipline or expulsion 5 for unlawful possession or use of any substance controlled 6 under chapter 893 may be entitled to a waiver of the 7 discipline or expulsion: 8 (a) If the pupil divulges information leading to the 9 arrest and conviction of the person who supplied such 10 controlled substance to him or her, or if the pupil 11 voluntarily discloses his or her unlawful possession of such controlled substance prior to his or her arrest. Any 12 information divulged which leads to such arrest and conviction 13 is not admissible in evidence in a subsequent criminal trial 14 against the pupil divulging such information. 15 (b) If the pupil commits himself or herself, or is 16 17 referred by the court in lieu of sentence, to a state-licensed 18 drug abuse program and successfully completes the program. 19 (3) A pupil may be disciplined or expelled for 20 unlawful possession or use of any substance controlled under 21 chapter 893 upon the third violation of this provision. (4) Any recommendation for the expulsion of a 22 handicapped student shall be made in accordance with the rules 23 24 adopted promulgated by the State Board of Education. 25 Section 12. Section 232.39, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 26 27 232.39 Secret societies prohibited in public 28 schools.--29 (1) It is unlawful for any person, group, or 30 organization to organize or establish a fraternity, sorority, 31 criminal street gang as defined in s. 874.03, or other secret 28

1 society in the state whose membership shall be comprised in 2 whole or in part of pupils enrolled in any public school, 3 whether elementary or secondary, or to go upon any public 4 school premises for the purpose of soliciting any pupils to 5 join such an organization.

б (2) A secret society shall be interpreted to be a 7 fraternity, sorority, criminal street gang as defined in s. 8 874.03, or other organization whose active membership is 9 comprised wholly or partly of pupils enrolled in the public 10 schools of the state and which perpetuates itself wholly or 11 partly by taking in additional members from the pupils enrolled in public schools on the basis of the decision of its 12 membership rather than on the right of any pupil who is 13 qualified by the rules of the school to be a member of and 14 take part in any class or group exercise designated and 15 classified according to sex, subjects included in the course 16 17 of study, or program of school activities fostered and 18 promoted by the school board and superintendent or by 19 principals of the schools. 20 (3) Each public school principal must immediately

21 notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency and the district coordinator of school safety and security if the 22 principal determines that one or more members of a secret 23 24 society prohibited under this section have committed any 25 violent or disruptive offense prohibited by the code of student conduct or any other act reportable under the uniform 26 27 incident-reporting system. However, this section is not 28 intended to interfere with the exercise of constitutionally 29 protected rights of freedom of expression or association. 30 (4) (4) (3) This section shall not be construed to prevent 31 the establishment of an organization which is fostered and

29

1 promoted by the school authorities, or which is first approved 2 and accepted by the school authorities, and whose membership 3 is selected on the basis of good character, good scholarship, leadership ability, and achievement. Full information 4 5 regarding the charter, principles, purposes, and conduct of б any such accepted organization shall always be available to 7 all students and instructional personnel of any school where 8 same may be organized.

(5) (4) This section shall not be construed to relate 9 10 to any junior organization or society sponsored by the Police 11 Athletic League, Knights of Pythias, Oddfellows, Moose, Woodmen of the World, Knights of Columbus, Elks, Masons, B'nai 12 13 B'rith, Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Associations, Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, Kiwanis, 14 Rotary, Optimist, Civitan, Exchange Clubs, Florida Federation 15 of Garden Clubs, and Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. 16

Section 13. Subsection (4) of section 235.0155,Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

235.0155 Prototype designs.--

19

20 (4) Plans for various schools shall be developed with 21 the assistance of district educational facilities and maintenance personnel from large, medium, and small 22 districts; , and with the assistance of teachers and 23 principals; and the Safe and Secure Schools Commission. 24 The 25 development of the programs and facilities plans shall be reviewed by a value-engineering team under contract with the 26 department, to assure that the cost of construction of the 27 28 buildings does not exceed the national average cost of 29 educational facilities, as determined by national estimating publications. These prototypes shall be revised or new 30 31 prototypes developed as programs require every 5 years. The

30

use of prototype plans shall not preclude the school board's 1 2 authority to select construction procurement techniques 3 pursuant to s. 235.211. Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 235.19, Florida 4 5 Statutes, is amended to read: б 235.19 Site planning and selection. --7 (1) Before acquiring property for sites, each board 8 shall determine the location of proposed educational centers or campuses for the board. In making this determination, the 9 10 board shall consider existing and anticipated site needs, the 11 recommendations of the Safe and Secure Schools Commission and the district coordinator of school safety and security, and 12 13 the most economical and practicable locations of sites. The 14 board shall coordinate with the long-range or comprehensive plans of local, regional, and state governmental agencies to 15 assure the compatibility of such plans with site planning. 16 17 Boards are encouraged to locate schools proximate to urban 18 residential areas to the extent possible, and shall seek to 19 collocate schools with other public facilities, such as parks, 20 libraries, and community centers, to the extent possible. Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 235.211, Florida 21 Statutes, is amended to read: 22 235.211 Educational facilities contracting and 23 24 construction techniques .--25 (4)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 481.229, the services of a registered architect must be 26 27 used for the development of plans for the erection, 28 enlargement, or alteration of any educational facility. The 29 services of a registered architect are not required for a minor renovation project for which the construction cost is 30 31 less than \$50,000 or for the placement or hookup of 31

1 relocatable educational facilities that conform with standards 2 adopted under s. 235.26(2) and (3). However, boards must 3 provide compliance with building code requirements and ensure 4 that these structures are adequately anchored for wind 5 resistance as required by law. Boards are encouraged to 6 consider the reuse of existing construction documents or 7 design criteria packages where such reuse is feasible and 8 practical. Notwithstanding s. 287.055, a board may purchase 9 the architectural services for the design of educational or 10 ancillary facilities under an existing contract agreement for 11 professional services held by a school board in the State of Florida, provided that the purchase is to the economic 12 13 advantage of the purchasing board, the services conform to the standards prescribed by rules of the Commissioner of 14 Education, and such reuse is not without notice to, and 15 permission from, the architect of record whose plans or design 16 17 criteria are being reused. Plans shall be reviewed for 18 compliance with the state requirements for educational 19 facilities. Rules adopted under this section must establish uniform prequalification, selection, bidding, and negotiation 20 21 procedures applicable to construction management contracts and 22 the design-build process. This section does not supersede any small, woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise 23 24 preference program adopted by a board. Except as otherwise 25 provided in this section, the negotiation procedures applicable to construction management contracts and the 26 27 design-build process must conform to the requirements of s. 28 287.055. A board may not modify any rules regarding 29 construction management contracts or the design-build process. 30 (b) Beginning July 1, 2002, all new development and design plans for erecting, enlarging, or altering any public 31

32

1 educational facility for grades K through 12 must comply with the recommendations of the Safe and Secure Schools Commission. 2 3 If plans in existence before July 1, 2002, are reused as prototypes, the school district is encouraged to alter design 4 5 plans or design criteria packages to meet any recommendations б made by the commission. 7 Section 16. Section 790.169, Florida Statutes, is 8 amended to read: 790.169 Juvenile offenders; release of names and 9 10 addresses.--11 (1) A law enforcement agency may release for publication the name and address of a child who has been 12 convicted of any offense involving possession or use of a 13 14 firearm. (2) A law enforcement agency must release the name and 15 address of a child who has been convicted of any offense 16 17 involving possession or use of a firearm to the district 18 coordinator of school safety and security or to other 19 appropriate personnel of the school district in which the arrest was made and in which the child resides. 20 21 Section 17. Section 790.17, Florida Statutes, is 22 amended to read: 23 790.17 Furnishing weapons to minors under 18 years of 24 age or persons of unsound mind and furnishing firearms to 25 minors under 18 years of age prohibited .--(1) A person who sells, hires, barters, lends, 26 27 transfers, or gives any minor under 18 years of age any dirk, 28 electric weapon or device, or other weapon, other than an 29 ordinary pocketknife, without permission of the minor's parent or guardian, or sells, hires, barters, lends, transfers, or 30 31 gives to any person of unsound mind an electric weapon or

1 device or any dangerous weapon, other than an ordinary 2 pocketknife, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, 3 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. (2)(a) A person may not knowingly or willfully sell or 4 5 transfer a firearm to a minor under 18 years of age, except б that a person may transfer ownership of a firearm to a minor 7 with permission of the parent or guardian. A person who violates this paragraph commits a felony of the third degree, 8 9 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 10 775.084. 11 (b) The parent or guardian must maintain possession of the firearm except pursuant to s. 790.22. 12 (3) The parent or guardian of a minor under 18 years 13 of age may not permit the sale or transfer of a firearm to the 14 15 minor if the minor has been convicted of, or has had adjudication withheld for, any offense related to the 16 17 possession or use of a firearm or any violent offense. Section 18. Section 790.174, Florida Statutes, is 18 19 amended to read: 790.174 Safe storage of firearms required .--20 (1) A person who stores or leaves, on a premise under 21 his or her control, a loaded firearm, as defined in s. 22 790.001, and who knows or reasonably should know that a minor 23 24 is likely to gain access to the firearm without the lawful 25 permission of the minor's parent or the person having charge of the minor, or without the supervision required by law, 26 shall keep the firearm in a securely locked box or container 27 28 or in a location which a reasonable person would believe to be 29 secure or shall secure it with a trigger lock, except when the person is carrying the firearm on his or her body or within 30 31 such close proximity thereto that he or she can retrieve and 34

```
1
   use it as easily and quickly as if he or she carried it on his
2
    or her body.
3
           (2) It is a misdemeanor of the first second degree,
   punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if a
4
5
   person violates subsection (1) by failing to store or leave a
б
    firearm in the required manner and as a result thereof a minor
7
    gains access to the firearm, without the lawful permission of
    the minor's parent or the person having charge of the minor,
8
9
    and possesses or exhibits it, without the supervision required
10
   by law:
11
                In a public place; or
           (a)
12
                In a rude, careless, angry, or threatening manner
           (b)
    in violation of s. 790.10.
13
14
    This subsection does not apply if the minor obtains the
15
    firearm as a result of an unlawful entry by any person.
16
           (3) As used in this act, the term "minor" means any
17
18
   person under the age of 18 \frac{16}{16}.
19
           Section 19.
                        Section 874.05, Florida Statutes, is
20
    amended to read:
21
           874.05 Causing, encouraging, soliciting, or recruiting
    criminal street gang membership. --
22
           (1) A person who intentionally causes, encourages,
23
24
    solicits, or recruits another person to join a criminal street
25
    gang that requires as a condition of membership or continued
    membership the commission of any crime commits a felony of the
26
27
    third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
28
    775.083, or s. 775.084.
29
           (2) Upon a second or subsequent offense under
   subsection (1), the person commits a felony of the second
30
31
```

1	degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or
2	s. 775.084.
3	(3) Any person who intentionally causes, encourages,
4	solicits, or recruits a public school student to join a
5	criminal street gang while on a public school campus, or who
6	requires that a public school student be identified with other
7	members of a criminal street gang by a common name, color,
8	sign, or symbol while on a public school campus as a condition
9	of membership or continued membership, commits a felony of the
10	second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
11	<u>775.083, or s. 775.084.</u>
12	Section 20. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
13	
14	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
15	SENATE SUMMARY
16	Creates the Safe and Secure Schools Commission for the
17	purpose of making recommendations to the Legislature on school safety. Requires district school boards to appoint
18	a district coordinator of school safety and security. Requires the Department of Education to create a uniform
19	incident-reporting system for the state. Specifies various offenses and incidents occurring on school
20	property which must be reported to the Department of Education and the Safe and Secure Schools Commission.
21	Requires that an arrest of a student or staff member be reported to the principal. Requires that the district
22	coordinator of school safety and security coordinate the duties of school safety officers and school resource
23	officers. Provides for telephone calls to be received anonymously by a school safety hotline. Requires that
24	student suspensions be reported to the district coordinator of school safety and security. Prohibits
25	criminal street gangs whose membership includes public school students. Requires that the Safe and Secure
26	Schools Commission and the district coordinator of school safety and security assist in developing plans for
27	educational sites and facilities. Requires that law enforcement agencies release the names of certain
28	juvenile offenders to district school personnel. Increases the penalty imposed for the unsafe storage of a
29	firearm that is accessible to a minor. (See bill for details.)
30	
31	
	36