1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the safety of students; amending s.
3	30.15, F.S.; revising the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron
4	Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to
5	include child care facilities; requiring a sheriff to
6	establish a guardian program under certain
7	circumstances; requiring certain security guards to
8	meet specified school guardian training and screening
9	requirements; prohibiting the costs for certain
10	services from exceeding costs established by the
11	Department of Education; authorizing such costs to be
12	adjusted according to the Consumer Price Index;
13	requiring a child care facility or security agency to
14	be responsible for all costs related to the guardian
15	program; authorizing a sheriff to waive such costs for
16	a child care facility; prohibiting a sheriff from
17	waiving costs for initial training of a school
18	security guard; authorizing a sheriff to certify a
19	person as a school security guard if he or she meets
20	specified criteria; revising firearm requirements for
21	school guardians and school security guards;
22	authorizing a sheriff to issue certificates to school
23	security guards who meet specified requirements;
24	requiring a sheriff to maintain specified
25	documentation; requiring a child care facility or
	Dage 1 of 22

Page 1 of 22

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26 employing security agency to make specified reports; 27 requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to 28 maintain specified records; requiring a sheriff to 29 make specified reports of certain school guardian or 30 school security quard trainings; prohibiting a child 31 care facility from operating a school guardian program 32 under certain circumstances; amending s. 402.305, 33 F.S.; authorizing a child care facility to partner 34 with specified entities to establish or assign safe-35 school officers and participate in the guardian 36 program; requiring a child care facility to pay for 37 the full cost of the guardian program; requiring compliance with specified provisions relating to safe-38 39 school officers; providing construction; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring specified school safety 40 41 requirements to be implemented during specified time 42 periods; revising the requirements for certain gates 43 and campus access points to be open or unlocked; providing that certain instructional spaces for career 44 45 and technical education are exempt from specified requirements under certain circumstances; providing 46 47 that certain provisions apply to common areas on 48 school campuses; providing exemptions from certain 49 requirements for doors, gates, and campus access 50 points; providing requirements for locked barriers

Page 2 of 22

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2025

51	between classrooms and open school campuses; requiring
52	certain protocols and policies to be provided to
53	substitute teachers; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.;
54	requiring a sheriff to conduct specified training;
55	requiring that certain reports be submitted to a
56	school security guard's employing agency; requiring a
57	sheriff's approval before a school security guard's
58	employment in a county; requiring the Office of Safe
59	Schools to provide specified information to the
60	Department of Law Enforcement; providing an effective
61	date.
62	
63	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
64	
65	Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section
66	30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
67	30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations
68	(1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or
69	by deputy, shall:
70	(k) Assist district school boards and charter school
71	governing boards in complying with, or private schools or child
72	care facilities, as defined in s. 402.302, in exercising options
73	in, s. 1006.12. A sheriff must, at a minimum, provide access to
74	a Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian
75	Program to aid in the prevention or abatement of active
	Page 3 of 22

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76 assailant incidents on school premises, as required under this 77 paragraph. Persons certified as school guardians pursuant to 78 this paragraph have no authority to act in any law enforcement 79 capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an 80 active assailant incident.

81 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to 82 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of 83 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s. 1006.12, the sheriff in that county shall establish a quardian 84 85 program to provide training for school guardians or school 86 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school 87 district, charter school, or private school, child care 88 facility, or security agency employees, either directly or 89 through a contract with another sheriff's office that has 90 established a guardian program. The security agency employing a school security guard is responsible for all training and 91 92 screening-related costs for a school security guard.

93 A charter school governing board in a school district b. 94 that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a quardian 95 program may request the sheriff in the county to establish a 96 guardian program for the purpose of training the charter school employees or school security guards consistent with the 97 requirements of subparagraph 2. If the county sheriff denies the 98 99 request, the charter school governing board may contract with a 100 sheriff that has established a quardian program to provide such

Page 4 of 22

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101 training. The charter school governing board must notify the 102 superintendent and the sheriff in the charter school's county of 103 the contract prior to its execution. <u>The security agency</u> 104 <u>employing a school security guard is responsible for all</u> 105 <u>training and screening-related costs for a school security</u> 106 <u>guard.</u>

<u>c. Beginning January 1, 2026, the costs for services</u>
 <u>provided in sub-subparagraphs a. and b. may not exceed the costs</u>
 <u>established by the Department of Education, in consultation with</u>
 <u>the sheriffs. Such established costs may be adjusted annually to</u>
 <u>reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index compiled by the</u>
 <u>United States Department of Labor.</u>

d.c. A private school or child care facility in a school 113 district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a 114 115 guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of the private school or child care facility establish a guardian 116 117 program for the purpose of training private school employees, 118 child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the 119 county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child 120 care facility may contract with a sheriff from another county 121 who has established a guardian program under subparagraph 2. to 122 provide such training. The private school or child care facility must notify the sheriff in the private school's or child care 123 124 facility's county of the contract with a sheriff from another 125 county before its execution. The private school, child care

Page 5 of 22

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126 <u>facility, or security agency</u> is responsible for all training and 127 screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The 128 sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid 129 by a private school, child care facility, or security agency are 130 not commingled with any funds provided by the state to the 131 sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-132 related costs of any school district or charter school employee.

133 e.d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b. is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff 134 135 providing such training shall adhere to the course of instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. This 136 137 subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing additional training. A school guardian or school security guard 138 139 who has completed the training program required in sub-140 subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another 141 sheriff's training program pursuant to that sub-subparagraph 142 unless there has been at least a 1-year break in his or her 143 appointment as a guardian or employment by a security agency as 144 a school security quard in a school.

145 <u>f.e.</u> The sheriff conducting the training pursuant to 146 subparagraph 2. for school district and charter school employees 147 will be reimbursed for screening-related and training-related 148 costs and for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to each 149 school guardian who participates in the school guardian program. 150 g.f. The sheriff may waive the training and screening-

Page 6 of 22

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151 related costs for a private school <u>or child care facility</u> for a 152 school guardian program. Funds provided pursuant to sub-153 subparagraph <u>f. e. may not be used to subsidize any costs that</u> 154 have been waived by the sheriff. <u>The sheriff may not waive the</u> 155 <u>training and screening-related costs required to be paid by a</u> 156 <u>security agency for initial training or ongoing training of a</u> 157 school security guard.

158 h.q. A person who is certified and in good standing under 159 the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, 160 who meets the qualifications established in s. 943.13, and who is otherwise qualified for the position of a school guardian or 161 162 school security guard may be certified as a school guardian or school security guard by the sheriff without completing the 163 164 training requirements of sub-subparagraph 2.b. However, a person 165 certified as a school guardian or school security guard under 166 this sub-subparagraph must meet the requirements of sub-167 subparagraphs 2.c.-e.

168 2. A sheriff who establishes a program shall consult with 169 the Department of Law Enforcement on programmatic guiding 170 principles, practices, and resources, and shall certify as 171 school guardians, without the power of arrest, school employees, as specified in s. 1006.12(3), or shall certify as school 172 security guards those persons employed by a security agency who 173 174 meet the criteria specified in s. 1006.12(4), and who: 175 Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are a.

Page 7 of 22

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2025

176 otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under 177 chapter 790. 178 After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7), b. 179 complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of 180 training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills 181 necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school 182 premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and 183 proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and 184 Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include: 185 (I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law 186 187 Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than 188 associated with academy training. Program participants must 189 190 achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training. 191 Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol. (II)192 (III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction using state-of-the-art simulator exercises. 193 194 (IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or 195 assailant scenarios. 196 Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics. (V) 197 (VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a 198 с. psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the 199 200 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the Page 8 of 22

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201 evaluation to the sheriff's office. The Department of Law 202 Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office with 203 mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this 204 paragraph.

205 d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent
206 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.
207 112.0455 and the sheriff's office.

e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon
inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual
basis.

211

212 The sheriff who conducts the quardian training or waives the training requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.h. 213 214 1.q. shall issue a school quardian certificate to persons who 215 meet the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the sheriff, and shall maintain documentation of weapon and 216 217 equipment inspections, as well as the training, certification, 218 inspection, and qualification records of each school guardian 219 certified by the sheriff. A person who is certified under this 220 paragraph may serve as a school guardian under s. 1006.12(3) 221 only if he or she is appointed by the applicable school district 222 superintendent, charter school principal, or private school head of school, or child care facility owner. A sheriff who conducts 223 the training for a school security guard or waives the training 224 225 requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.h. and

Page 9 of 22

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226 determines that the school security guard has met all the 227 requirements of s. 1006.12(4) shall issue a school security 228 guard certificate to persons who meet the requirements of this 229 section to the satisfaction of the sheriff and shall maintain documentation of weapon and equipment inspections, training, 230 231 certification, and qualification records for each school 232 security guard certified by the sheriff. 233 3.a. (I) Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or 234 school security quard certificate, the sheriff who issued the 235 certificate must report to the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and certification date of the school 236 237 guardian or school security guard. (II) By September 1, 2024, each sheriff who issued a 238 239

239 school guardian certificate must report to the Department of Law 240 Enforcement the name, date of birth, and certification date of 241 each school guardian who received a certificate from the 242 sheriff.

243 b.(I) By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, 244 each school district, charter school, and private school, child 245 care facility, and employing security agency must report in the 246 manner prescribed to the Department of Law Enforcement the name, 247 date of birth, and appointment date of each person appointed as a school guardian or employed as a school security guard. The 248 249 school district, charter school, and private school, child care 250 facility, and employing security agency must also report in the

Page 10 of 22

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251 <u>manner prescribed</u> to the Department of Law Enforcement the date 252 each school guardian <u>or school security guard</u> separates from his 253 or her appointment as a school guardian <u>or employment as a</u> 254 school security guard in a school.

255 (II) By September 1, 2024, each school district, charter 256 school, and private school must report to the Department of Law 257 Enforcement the name, date of birth, and initial and end-of-258 appointment dates, as applicable, of each person appointed as a 259 school guardian.

260 с. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list 261 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a 262 school security quard in the state. The list must include the 263 name and certification date of each school guardian and school 264 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school 265 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the 266 name of the school district, charter school, or private school, 267 or child care facility in which the school guardian is 268 appointed, or the employing security agency of a school security 269 quard, any information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, 270 if applicable, the date such person separated from his or her 271 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date. 272 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any 273 274 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph 275 1.e. 1.d.

Page 11 of 22

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276 Each sheriff must report on a quarterly basis to the d. 277 Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for upcoming school 278 guardian or school security guard trainings, including the dates 279 of the training, the training locations, a contact person to 280 register for the training, and the class capacity. If no 281 trainings are scheduled, the sheriff is not required to report 282 to the Department of Law Enforcement. The Department of Law 283 Enforcement shall publish on its website a list of the upcoming 284 school guardian trainings. The Department of Law Enforcement 285 must update such list quarterly.

e. A sheriff who fails to report the information required by this subparagraph may not receive reimbursement from the Department of Education for school guardian trainings. Upon the submission of the required information, a sheriff is deemed eligible for such funding and is authorized to continue to receive reimbursement for school guardian training.

292 f. A school district, charter school, or private school, 293 child care facility, or employing security agency that fails to 294 report the information required by this subparagraph is 295 prohibited from operating may not operate a school guardian 296 program or employing school security guards in for the following school year $_{ au}$ unless the missing school district, charter school, 297 or private school has submitted the required information is 298 299 provided.

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g. By March 1 and October 1 of each school year, the

Page 12 of 22

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301 Department of Law Enforcement shall notify the Department of 302 Education of any sheriff, school district, charter school, or 303 private school, or child care facility that has not complied 304 with the reporting requirements of this subparagraph. 305 h. The Department of Law Enforcement may adopt rules to implement the requirements of this subparagraph, including 306 307 requiring additional reporting information only as necessary to 308 uniquely identify each school guardian and school security guard 309 reported. 310 Section 2. Subsection (20) is added to section 402.305, 311 Florida Statutes, to read: 312 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.-313 (20) SAFE SCHOOL OFFICERS.-314 (a) A child care facility may partner with a law 315 enforcement agency or a security agency to establish or assign 316 one or more safe-school officers established in s. 1006.12(1)-317 (4). The child care facility is responsible for the full cost of 318 implementing any such option, which includes all training costs 319 under the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel 320 Guardian Program under s. 30.15(1)(k). 321 (b) A child care facility that establishes a safe-school 322 officer must comply with the requirements of s. 1006.12. References to a school district, district school board, or 323 district school superintendent in s. 1006.12(1)-(5) shall also 324 325 mean an owner of a child care facility. References to a school

Page 13 of 22

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326 <u>district employee in s. 1006.12(3) shall also mean child care</u> 327 personnel.

328 Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (6) of section 329 1006.07 is amended, and paragraph (h) is added to that 330 subsection, to read:

331 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student 332 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall 333 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the 334 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper 335 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the 336 welfare of students, including:

(6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.-Each district
school superintendent shall establish policies and procedures
for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the
assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior
poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

342 School safety requirements. - By August 1, 2024, Each (f) 343 school district and charter school governing board shall comply 344 with the following school safety requirements, which, 345 notwithstanding any other requirements under this paragraph, 346 must be enforced, at a minimum, from 30 minutes before the 347 school start time until 30 minutes after the end of the school 348 day: All gates or other access points that restrict ingress 349 1.

Page 14 of 22

to or egress from a school campus shall remain closed and locked

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351 when students are on campus. A gate or other campus access point 352 may not be open or unlocked, regardless of whether it is during 353 normal school hours, unless:

354 a. Attended or actively staffed by a person when students355 are on campus;

356 b. The use is in accordance with a shared use agreement 357 pursuant to s. 1013.101; or

358c. Another closed or locked gate or access point separates359the open or unlocked gate from areas occupied by students; or

<u>d.e.</u> The school safety specialist, or his or her designee, has documented in the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool portal maintained by the Office of Safe Schools that the gate or other access point is not subject to this requirement based upon other safety measures at the school. The office may conduct a compliance visit pursuant to s. 1001.212(14) to review if such determination is appropriate.

367 2.a. All school classrooms and other instructional spaces 368 must be locked to prevent ingress when occupied by students, 369 except between class periods when students are moving between 370 classrooms or other instructional spaces. If a classroom or 371 other instructional space door must be left unlocked or open for 372 any reason other than between class periods when students are moving between classrooms or other instructional spaces, the 373 374 door must be actively staffed by a person standing or seated at 375 the door.

Page 15 of 22

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376 Instructional spaces for career and technical education b. 377 which are designed as open areas for which compliance with the 378 requirements of sub-subparagraph a. affects the health and 379 safety of students may be exempted from compliance with that 380 sub-subparagraph by the school safety specialist. To be exempt, the school safety specialist, or his or her designee, must 381 382 document in the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool portal 383 maintained by the Office of Safe Schools that the instructional 384 space is exempt from these requirements due to negative impacts 385 to student health and safety and the presence of other safety 386 measures at the school that prevent egress from the 387 instructional space to hallways or other classrooms or 388 instructional spaces. 389 c. Common areas on a school campus, including, but not 390 limited to, cafeterias, auditoriums, and media centers, which 391 are used for instructional time or student testing must meet the 392 requirements of sub-subparagraph a. only when such areas are 393 being used for instructional time or student testing. 394 All campus access doors, gates, and other access points 3. 395 that allow ingress to or egress from a school building shall 396 remain closed and locked at all times to prevent ingress, 397 unless: a. A person is actively entering or exiting the door, 398 399 gate, or other access point; 400 b. The door, gate, or access point is actively staffed by Page 16 of 22

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2025

401	school personnel to prevent unauthorized entry; or
402	c. The school safety specialist, or his or her designee,
403	has documented in the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool
404	portal maintained by the Office of Safe Schools that the open
405	and unlocked door, gate, or other access point is not subject to
406	this requirement based upon other safety measures at the school.
407	There must be at least one locked barrier between classrooms and
408	instructional spaces and open school campus.
409	
410	The office may conduct a compliance visit pursuant to s.
411	1001.212(14) to review if such determination is appropriate. All
412	campus access doors, gates, and other access points may be
413	electronically or manually controlled by school personnel to
414	allow access by authorized visitors, students, and school
415	personnel.
416	4. All school classrooms and other instructional spaces
417	must clearly and conspicuously mark the safest areas in each
418	classroom or other instructional space where students must
419	shelter in place during an emergency. Students must be notified
420	of these safe areas within the first 10 days of the school year.
421	If it is not feasible to clearly and conspicuously mark the
422	safest areas in a classroom or other instructional space, the
423	school safety specialist, or his or her designee, must document
424	such determination in the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool
425	portal maintained by the Office of Safe Schools, identifying
	D_{acc} 17 of 00

Page 17 of 22

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426 where affected students must shelter in place. The office shall 427 assist the school safety specialist with compliance during the 428 inspection required under s. 1001.212(14).

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430 Persons who are aware of a violation of this paragraph must 431 report the violation to the school principal. The school 432 principal must report the violation to the school safety 433 specialist no later than the next business day after receiving 434 such report. If the person who violated this paragraph is the 435 school principal or charter school administrator, the report 436 must be made directly to the district school superintendent or 437 charter school governing board, as applicable.

438 (h) Provision of school safety protocols and policies.439 Each substitute teacher must be provided all school safety
440 protocols and policies before beginning his or her first day of
441 substitute teaching at a school.

442 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 1006.12,
443 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

444 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For 445 the protection and safety of school personnel, property, 446 students, and visitors, each district school board and school 447 district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement 448 agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more 449 safe-school officers at each school facility within the 450 district, including charter schools. A district school board

Page 18 of 22

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451 must collaborate with charter school governing boards to 452 facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer 453 options available under this section. The school district may 454 implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4) 455 to best meet the needs of the school district and charter 456 schools.

(4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter school governing board may contract with a security agency as defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and contractual conditions are met:

(a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,
for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,
must:

466 1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required
467 training <u>conducted by a sheriff</u> pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

468 Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a 2. 469 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the 470 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the 471 evaluation to the sheriff's office, and school district, or 472 charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to 473 474 provide the sheriff's office, school district, or charter school 475 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health

Page 19 of 22

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476 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent
random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.
112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, or charter
school governing board, or employing security agency, as
applicable.

482 <u>4. Be approved to work as a school security guard by the</u> 483 <u>sheriff of each county in which the school security guard will</u> 484 <u>be assigned to a school before commencing work at any school in</u> 485 <u>that county. The sheriff's approval authorizes the security</u> 486 <u>agency to assign the school security guard to any school in the</u> 487 <u>county, and the sheriff's approval is not limited to any</u> 488 particular school.

489 <u>5.4</u>. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon 490 inspection, and firearm qualification <u>conducted by a sheriff</u> 491 <u>pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.e.</u> on at least an annual basis and 492 provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school district, 493 or charter school governing board, <u>or employing security agency</u>, 494 as applicable.

(b) The contract between a security agency and a school
district or a charter school governing board regarding
requirements applicable to school security guards serving in the
capacity of a safe-school officer for purposes of satisfying the
requirements of this section shall define the entity or entities
responsible for training and the responsibilities for

Page 20 of 22

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501 maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and 502 firearm qualification.

(c) School security guards serving in the capacity of a safe-school officer pursuant to this subsection are in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, and must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises.

508 (d) The Office of Safe Schools shall provide the 509 Department of Law Enforcement any information related to a 510 school security guard that the office receives pursuant to 511 subsection (5).

(5) NOTIFICATION.—The district school superintendent or charter school administrator, or a respective designee, shall notify the county sheriff and the Office of Safe Schools immediately after, but no later than 72 hours after:

516 (a) A safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or517 is otherwise disciplined.

(b) A safe-school officer discharges his or her firearm in the exercise of the safe-school officer's duties, other than for training purposes.

522 If a district school board, through its adopted policies, 523 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any 524 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school 525 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety

Page 21 of 22

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526 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the 527 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource 528 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school 529 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s. 530 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Page 22 of 22

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